SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

GIANT G 67

BATMAN

25¢

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

FEB.

NO .218

THE STRANGEST CASES FROM BATMAN'S CRIME-FILE!

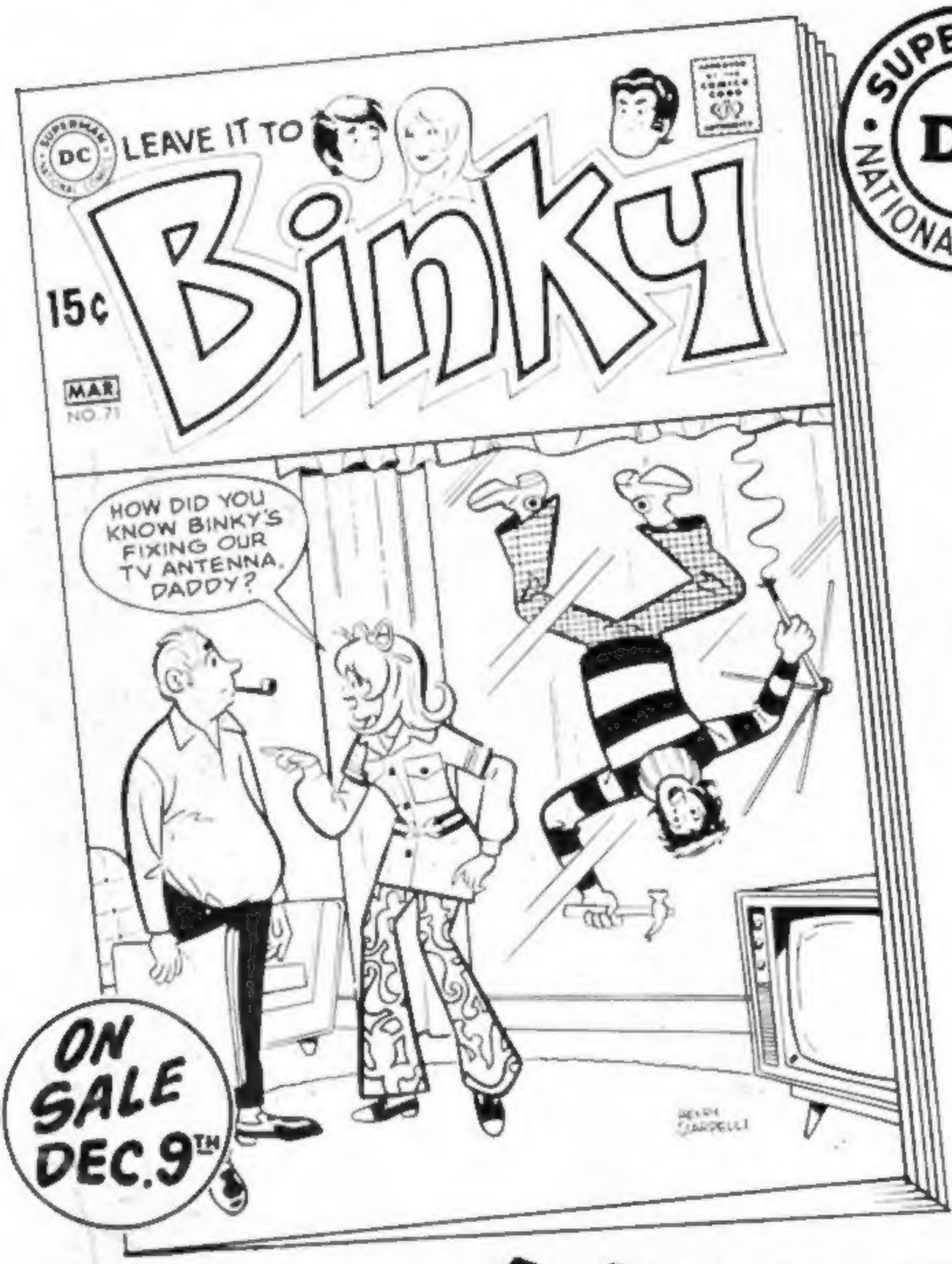
THE HAND FROM NOWHERE! MARCH, 1960

THE BODY IN THE BATCAVE!

The LEAGUE AGAINST BATMAN! JULY, 1953

The WRECKER

For BELLY LAFFS or BLAZING ACTION...



SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

OUR ARMY at WAR
15¢
FEB.
NO. 215
SGT. ROCK
NO, SGT. ROCK.. DO NOT TOUCH THE PIPER...
...OR... OUR CHILDREN ARE DOOMED!
WHAT CAN SGT. ROCK DO... WHEN CHILDREN'S LIVES ARE AT STAKE?
"PIED PIPER of PERIL!"
ON SALE DEC. 2ND

FOR THE MOST in THRILLS...

ON SALE DEC. 4TH

COPYRIGHT © NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 1969

GIANT BATMAN

Featuring the greatest cases from Batman's Crime File

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BATMAN AND ROBIN'S GREATEST MYSTERY .....

The Dynamic Duo faces its greatest challenge...solving the most closely guarded secret in Gotham City ... their own identities!

THE HAND FROM NOWHERE .....

Where did the mysterious, disembodied hand come from? Why did it steal only certain metals? The answer makes this one of the most fantastic surprise stories in the Batman saga.

THE MAN WHO COULDN'T BE TRIED TWICE .....

A suspect accused of murder is acquitted by Batman's testimony...and, knowing he cannot be tried again for the same crime, he boasts that he is guilty—and has fooled the Caped Crime-fighter!

THE BODY IN THE BATCAVE .....

A murder is committed in...of all places ...the Batcave! Now Batman must try to find an unknown killer...who knows his secret identity!

FOUR HOURS TO LIVE .....

Death in the electric chair awaits a convicted man...and Batman and Robin have only four hours to prove his innocence! A 1944 syndicated newspaper story, never before published in any magazine!

THE LEAGUE AGAINST BATMAN .....

Who is the Wrecker...that hooded figure who declares total war on Batman...and everyone who has ever glorified his name?

BATMAN, No. 218, Jan.-Feb., 1970. Published monthly, with the exception of April and October, by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd & Dickey Sts., SPARTA, ILL. 62286. Editorial, Executive offices, 909 THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y.. 10022. E. Nelson Bridwell, Editor. Carmine Infantino, Editorial Director. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT SPARTA, ILL. under the act of March 3, 1879. No subscriptions. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 41 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10017.

Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1970. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred.

G-67

"This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever." Printed in U.S.A.

BATMAN WITH ROBIN

BY BRILLIANT DETECTIVE SKILL AND FLASHING ACTION, BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER HAVE SOLVED MANY A MENACING MYSTERY! BUT NOW GOTHAM CITY'S FAMED MAN-HUNTERS FACE THE SUPREME TEST OF THEIR WHOLE CAREERS WHEN SUDDEN AMNESIA WIPES OUT THEIR MEMORIES! FORGOTTEN BECOMES THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY ARE REALLY BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON, AND SOLVING THE SECRET OF THEIR OWN IDENTITIES BECOMES--

BATMAN AND ROBIN'S GREATEST MYSTERY

A GREAT DANGER THREATENS GOTHAM CITY, BUT WE CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT IT IS--OR WHO WE ARE!

FROM DETECTIVE NO. 234, AUGUST, 1956.

ONE EVENING, AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, SEE A SIGNAL IN THE SKY...

HMM... THAT ROAST LOOKS GOOD, ALFRED-- BUT THERE'S THE BAT-SIGNAL!

WE'D BETTER SWITCH TO BATMAN AND ROBIN FAST!

PRESENTLY, IN THE SECRET BAT-CAVE UNDER THE WAYNE MANSION, THE DUO MAKES A HASTY CHANGE OF COSTUME...

BUT DINNER WILL BE RUINED, SIR!

CAN'T HELP IT, ALFRED-- WE HAVE TO FIND OUT WHAT COMMISSIONER GORDON WANTS!

SOON, OUTSIDE POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

BATMAN... WE'RE INVESTIGATING A ROBBERY OF SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT FROM THE GOTHAM RESEARCH FOUNDATION! YOUR SCIENTIFIC ABILITY COULD HELP ON THIS!

HOP IN OUR BATMOBILE, COMMISSIONER, AND WE'LL GET THERE FAST!

LATER, IN THE LABORATORY OF THE GOTHAM RESEARCH CENTER...

HMM, ONLY A ROBBER WITH A SCIENTIFIC BACKGROUND COULD SAFELY BREAK INTO THIS DANGEROUS ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT!

OUR NEW ULTRA-SONIC BEAM PROJECTOR WAS STOLEN! IT CREATES SONIC WAVES WHICH CAN PAINLESSLY STUN ANIMALS INTO A STATE OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS!

CRIMINALS COULD USE THAT SONIC BEAM TO COMMIT BIG CRIMES! WE'LL TRY TO RUN DOWN THE THIEF FAST!

KEEP ME INFORMED, BATMAN--THIS SOUNDS SERIOUS!

FEW CRIMINALS WOULD HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE TO ROB THAT DANGEROUS LAB--ONE IS JAY CAIRD, THE SCIENTIST WHO WAS JAILED FOR ESPIONAGE! HE'D BE OUT OF PRISON BY NOW!

THEN WE LOOK UP CAIRD FIRST!

PRESENTLY, FOLLOWING THAT LEAD...

WE'LL HIT THIS WHOLE CORNER WITH THE SONIC SOUND BEAM AT TUESDAY NOON-- IT'LL KNOCK OUT ALL EYEWITNESSES!

CAIRD'S OUR MAN-- LET'S GO!

WAIT-- I PROMISED TO KEEP THE COMMISSIONER INFORMED-- AND NOW I SEE THE CRIME THEY'RE PLANNING!

AND USING HIS BELT-RADIO ON STANDARD POLICE WAVELENGTH...

TELL COMMISSIONER GORDON WE'RE MOVING IN--I'VE LEARNED THEY'RE PLANNING A BIG CRIME!

WE CAN SWING IN FAST!

AND OUT OF THE NIGHT, TWO FLYING SHAPES...

---SO WE'LL CLEAN UP BIG-- BATMAN!

YOU CROOKS ARE THROUGH BEFORE YOU START!

THAT TAKES CARE OF THEM, AND NOW--

NOW THE SONIC BEAM WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

GOTHAM CITY

AS THE DUO RECEIVES THE FULL FORCE OF THE SONIC BEAM...

YOU GOT 'EM, CAIRD!

BUT IF THEY WARNED THE POLICE, WE MUST GET OUT OF HERE WITH THE PROJECTOR FAST! HURRY!

AND WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE...

BATMAN, THEY GOT AWAY! BUT WHAT'S THE CLUE YOU SAW-- WHAT'S THEIR CRIME-PLAN?

I--DON'T KNOW! I CAN'T REMEMBER--CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING!

NEITHER CAN I! WHO-- WHO ARE WE?

WHY, YOU'RE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE LAWMEN WHO HELP US POLICE! CAN'T YOU REMEMBER?

NO...

THEY MUST HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE SONIC BEAM--THE SHOCK COULD CAUSE **AMNESIA!**

THE QUICKEST WAY TO HAVE THEM RECOVER THEIR MEMORIES IS TO TAKE THEM **HOME** WHERE FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS SHOULD MAKE THEM RECALL THEIR PAST.

I CAN'T DO THAT-- I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY LIVE! YET THEY MUST RECOVER THEIR MEMORIES, SOMEHOW, FOR **BATMAN** HAD A CLUE TO A CRIME THEY WERE PLANNING!

AND SOON, IN POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

NOW THAT WE'RE ALONE, TELL US WHO WE ARE IN EVERYDAY LIFE -- OUR REAL NAMES!

I DON'T KNOW THAT-- NOBODY DOES! TO KEEP YOUR SECRET, YOU MUST FIND OUT YOUR SECRET IDENTITIES **YOURSELVES!**

*AND SO IT IS THAT **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** FACE THEIR GREATEST MYSTERY!*

HERE ARE OUR FILES ON ALL **BATMAN** CASES! PERHAPS, IF YOU'LL STUDY THEM, IT WILL AWAKEN YOUR MEMORIES!

LET'S HOPE SO!

AND AS THE QUEST FOR THEIR OWN IDENTITIES BEGINS...

I THOUGHT THAT MAYBE WE'D RECOGNIZE EACH OTHER IF WE TOOK OFF OUR MASKS -- BUT WE CAN'T!

MAYBE WE COULD FIND OUR REAL FACES IN NEWSPAPER FILES!

IT WOULD TAKE DAYS TO GO THROUGH ALL THE NEWSPAPER FILES -- AND WE'VE NO ASSURANCE WE'D FIND OUR PICTURES IN THEM! AND THERE ISN'T TIME! THAT PLANNED CRIME MUST BE STOPPED -- EVEN IF WE HAVE TO REVEAL OUR REAL FACES PUBLICLY TO GET OUR MEMORY BACK!

EXAMINING POLICE RECORDS, THE DUO READS OF THEIR OWN FORGOTTEN EXPLOITS!

LOOK-- BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE CONQUERING THE CRIME-ROBOT!

THE BATMARINE! BATMAN'S FOUND OUR UNDERSEA HIDEOUT!

BATMAN AND ROBIN GOT THE LAST TWO PEOPLE OUT OF THE BURNING TOWER!

GOSH, IT SEEMS WE'VE DONE SOME PRETTY TERRIFIC THINGS IN THE PAST-- BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER THEM!

THERE'S NO CLUE TO OUR IDENTITIES IN THESE STORIES-- LET'S SEE IF THERE ARE ANY CLUES ON OURSELVES!

AFTER MINUTELY EXAMINING THEIR UTILITY BELTS AND COSTUMES...

NO-- WE'VE APPARENTLY BEEN CAREFUL THAT THERE'S NO SINGLE CLUE TO OUR IDENTITIES ON OUR PERSONS-- JUST IN CASE WE EVER GOT CAPTURED!

WITH THAT CRIME-MYSTERY THREATENING, WE MUST GET OUR MEMORIES BACK FAST! MAYBE COMMISSIONER GORDON CAN HELP US!

PRESENTLY...

COMMISSIONER, WHEN I FIRST VOLUNTEERED TO HELP THE POLICE, DID I TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT MYSELF WHICH MIGHT OFFER A CLUE TO MY REAL IDENTITY?

YOU DIDN'T TELL ME WHO YOU WERE! I REMEMBER YOUR FIRST APPEARANCE QUITE CLEARLY--

"I WAS WORKING LATE THAT NIGHT AND I LOOKED UP SUDDENLY IN AMAZEMENT..."

THAT QUEER COSTUME-- THAT MASK-- WHO ARE YOU?

MY REAL NAME, NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW! BUT YOU CAN CALL ME-- BATMAN! AND I WANT TO HELP THE POLICE IN THEIR WORK!

"I WAS SKEPTICAL ABOUT YOU, THEN!"

I'VE TRAINED MYSELF THOROUGHLY, AND WANT TO HELP ENFORCE THE LAW!

I APPRECIATE YOUR SPIRIT-- BUT POLICE WORK ISN'T FOR AMATEURS!

"EVEN AFTER YOU'D SUCCESSFULLY SOLVED A FEW CASES, I DOUBTED YOUR ABILITY! THEN, WHEN YOU CAME AGAIN TO ME ONE NIGHT..."

A MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY JUST REPORTED AT THE MUSEUM OF TIME!

COME ALONG WITH ME, BATMAN!

A REALLY TOUGH CASE WILL TEACH HIM THAT POLICE WORK IS TOO MUCH FOR HIM!

"AND IT WAS A KNOTTY MYSTERY INDEED AT THE MUSEUM OF TIME, WHICH HELD TIME-PIECES OF ALL THE AGES!"

A FORTUNE IN JEWELLED WATCHES STOLEN! YET I WAS PATROLLING AROUND THE MUSEUM AN HOUR BEFORE THE BURGLAR-ALARM WENT OFF-- AND I SAW NOBODY GO IN OR OUT!

HMM... ALL THESE CLOCKS KEEP TIME AND SHOW IT'S NOW 11:15--

--EXCEPT THAT ONE WHICH STOPPED AT 4:10, BEFORE THE MUSEUM CLOSED! A VISITOR COULD HAVE HIDDEN IN THERE, IF HE STOPPED THE WORKS!

AND ONE DID-- THERE HE GOES!

"THEN, AS THAT THIEF ESCAPED ALONG THE BALCONY, I SAW YOUR SUPERB ACROBATIC SKILL!"

HE GRABBED THE END OF THE BIG PENDULUM-- AND IT'S SWINGING HIM UP TOWARD THE BALCONY! LOOK AT THAT LEAP!

RIGHT AT THE THIEF! HE CAN'T ESCAPE NOW!

"THAT NIGHT CONVINCED ME-- AND WHEN WE LEFT THE MUSEUM..."

WE CAN USE YOUR HELP, BATMAN! BUT IT'S A HARD JOB YOU'VE TAKEN ON, DEVOTING YOUR LIFE TO FIGHTING CRIME!

YES-- BUT I'VE SUFFERED FROM CRIME AND I WANT TO FIGHT IT!

SO, FROM THE FIRST, YOU TOLD ME NOTHING OF WHO YOU WERE! I NEVER HAVE TRIED TO LEARN YOUR IDENTITY!

WELL, THANKS ANYWAY--**ROBIN** AND I WILL KEEP TRYING!

BUT SECONDS LATER...

HE DID TELL US ONE FACT--THAT, IN MY REAL IDENTITY, I WAS SOMEONE WHO HAD SUFFERED FROM CRIME!

BUT THAT ALONE WILL NEVER TELL US WHO YOU ARE! OR WHO I AM!

RACING AGAINST TIME, THE MANHUNTERS SEEK ANOTHER CLUE TO THEMSELVES...

THESE ARE RECORDS OF YOUR FIRST EXPLOITS WITH THE **BATPLANE** WHEN YOU STARTED TO USE IT—BUT THEY TELL US NOTHING!

MAYBE **THIS**, ONE OF MY EARLIEST **BATPLANE** FEATS, IS A CLUE! IT TELLS HOW--

GOTHAM GAZETTE
BATMAN WITH BATPLANE

"... AN EXHIBITION FLIGHT BY A LITTLE, EARLY-DAY AIRPLANE WENT WRONG OVER GOTHAM CITY!"

LOOK, THAT OLD-TYPE BIPLANE HAS STALLED-- IT'LL CRASH!

THERE'S **BATMAN** IN HIS NEW **BATPLANE**, BUT HE CAN'T HELP!

"BUT, TO PREVENT A CRASH INTO CITY STREETS, I TRIED..."

I'VE GOT TO MATCH ITS SPEED EXACTLY, KEEP RIGHT UNDER IT--

"AND I DID!"

WOW! WHAT A FLYING FEAT!

BATMAN'S TRYING TO CATCH THE LITTLE BIPLANE ON THE **BATPLANE'S** BACK!

THAT WAS ONE OF MY EARLIEST BATPLANE EXPLOITS--SO I MUST HAVE BEEN A TRAINED FLIER BEFORE I USED THE BATPLANE!

THEN YOU'RE SOMEONE WITH AN AVIATOR'S LICENSE, AND WHO HAD SUFFERED FROM CRIME! BUT THAT DOESN'T NARROW IT DOWN ENOUGH!

AND UNLESS WE RECOVER OUR IDENTITIES AND MEMORIES SOON, IT MAY BE TOO LATE!

WE HAVE TO GET MORE CLUES TO PIN DOWN OUR IDENTITIES!

HERE ARE RECORDS OF THE FIRST CASES IN WHICH YOU HELPED ME--BUT THEY CONTAIN NO CLUE TO YOUR IDENTITY, EITHER!

BATMAN, HERE'S A CASE THAT MAY HOLD A LEAD TO US!

"IT SAYS WE ONCE CHASED A WANTED MAN WHO TOOK REFUGE INSIDE A GOTHAM CITY MACHINE SHOP..."

THERE HE GOES--INTO THAT MACHINE SHOP CLOSED FOR THE NIGHT!

AFTER HIM!

MELDEN MACHINE SHOP

"WE PURSUED HIM INSIDE, AND THEN..."

HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN HERE!

THERE WAS A LIGHT IN THE OFFICE--THE OWNER MUST BE STILL HERE AND HE MAY KNOW WHERE--

"BUT THEN WE SAW HIM, TOO LATE!"

I'LL TURN ON ALL THE BIG MACHINES TO KEEP 'EM BUSY--AND JAM THE SWITCHES SO NO ONE CAN TURN THEM OFF!

BATMAN, THERE HE IS--

"SUDDENLY, ALL AROUND US, MECHANICAL CHAOS WAS LET LOOSE!"

DOWN, ROBIN-- THESE MACHINES ARE RUNNING WILD-- CAN'T GET THROUGH THEM!

"BUT MELDEN, THE OWNER OF THE MACHINE SHOP, HAD HEARD AND CAME RUNNING..."

BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THERE-- TRAPPED-- AND I CAN'T SHUT THE JAMMED SWITCHES OFF!

"TO HELP US, HE WRECKED HIS WHOLE MACHINERY!"

SHORT-CIRCUITING THE MACHINES' CONTROLS WILL BURN THEM OUT AND RUIN THE MACHINES-- BUT IT'LL STOP THEM!

"WHEN WE HAD CAUGHT UP TO AND NABBED THE FUGITIVE..."

YOU RUINED YOUR WHOLE MACHINE SHOP FOR US!

I'D DO THAT ANY TIME FOR YOU!

WHY WOULD HE SACRIFICE HIS WHOLE PLANT FOR US, UNLESS HE WAS SOMEBODY CLOSE TO US, SOMEONE WHO KNEW US?

IT MAY BE A REAL LEAD-- LET'S GET THERE FAST AND ASK HIM!

BUT AT THE MACHINE SHOP...

WHY, NO, I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE! I WRECKED MY PLANT TO SAVE YOU BECAUSE YOU'D SAVED SO MANY OTHERS!

IT WAS SWELL OF YOU, MELDEN! I WISH WE COULD PAY YOU BACK FOR YOUR LOSSES!

MELDEN MACHINE SHOP — PRIVATE

BUT YOU *DID* PAY ME BACK ALL MY LOSSES AND I GOT NEW MACHINES--DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

I DID?

SURE--YOU CAME BACK THE NEXT DAY AND PAID ME MY WHOLE $90,000 LOSS FROM YOUR PERSONAL FORTUNE. YOU ASKED ME NEVER TO TELL ANYONE, AND I NEVER DID!

ER--THAT'S FINE--THANKS, MELDEN!

WELL, WE GOT ANOTHER CLUE TO MYSELF, AFTER ALL--IN MY REAL IDENTITY I MUST BE *WEALTHY* TO HAVE A PERSONAL FORTUNE!

IT SEEMS SO! FUNNY, THOSE CALLUSES ON YOUR HAND MAKE ME THINK YOU MUST BE A WORKINGMAN OF SOME KIND!

MAYBE THESE CALLUSES CAN GIVE ANOTHER CLUE TO WHO I AM!

WE'D BETTER FIND OUT FAST--IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE TO STOP WHATEVER CRIME-COUP IS PLANNED!

AND, BACK AT HEADQUARTERS, AFTER SECURING A VARIETY OF OBJECTS, A STRANGE TRY-OUT...

NO, A TENNIS RACKET WOULDN'T MAKE CALLUSES IN THE POSITION THESE ARE--SO I'M NOT A TENNIS-PLAYER!

TRY THIS GOLF CLUB!

AND AFTER MANY TRIALS...

ROBIN, THIS IS IT!--THIS *POLO MALLET* WOULD MAKE EXACTLY SUCH CALLUSES!

THEN WE KNOW YOU'RE RICH, THAT YOU ONCE SUFFERED FROM CRIME, THAT YOU'D LEARNED FLYING AND ARE A POLO-PLAYER! AND--

--THAT YOU MUST HAVE A SON OR YOUNGER BROTHER-- ME!

QUICK, WE'LL CHECK EVERY POLO-PLAYER IN GOTHAM CITY! THERE CAN'T BE TOO MANY!

DESPERATELY, THE **DUO** SEARCHES THROUGH SPORTING RECORDS, SOCIETY BLUE-BOOKS AND DIRECTORIES AS TIME RUNS OUT...

ARTHUR VAN GORDER-- HE'S A STAR POLO-PLAYER!

NO, HE DOESN'T FIT EITHER! HE'S RICH AND PLAYS POLO, BUT HE HAS NEVER FLOWN AND HAS NO SON OR BROTHER!

BUT THE NEXT OF THE NAMES...

BRUCE WAYNE... FUNNY, THAT NAME SOUNDS AWFULLY FAMILIAR!

BATMAN, BRUCE WAYNE FITS **ALL** THE CLUES! HIS FATHER WAS A VICTIM OF CRIME, HE'S RICH, A FLIER, AND A POLO-PLAYER! LET'S GET TO HIS HOME FAST!

SOON... **BATMAN**, IT'S COMING BACK TO ME--THIS HOUSE! I **KNOW** IT!

AND I SEEM TO REMEMBER NOW YOU'RE NOT MY SON OR BROTHER, BUT MY WARD. LET'S GO IN--

AND AS THE TENSE DUO ENTERS THE WAYNE MANSION...

WELCOME HOME, MASTER, BUT--

THAT CLOCK IS THE SECRET PASSAGE DOWN TO THE **BAT-CAVE**. I REMEMBER NOW, **BATMAN**-- I REMEMBER **EVERYTHING!**

SO DO I! AND IT'S ALMOST NOON-- THE TIME CAIRD'S BUNCH PLANNED TO PULL THEIR SONIC-BEAM CRIME AT FIFTH AND MAIN!

WE'VE GOT ONLY MINUTES-- HURRY!

WHAT'S GOT INTO THE MASTERS? THEY COME INTO THE HOUSE INSTEAD OF THE **BAT-CAVE**, THEN DASH OUT AGAIN-- I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

AFTER A SWIFT DRIVE, AT A BUSY CORNER...

THE GOTHAM TRUST PAYROLL TRUCK COMES THROUGH HERE AT NOON TODAY--THAT SONIC BEAM CAN STUN ITS GUARDS AND EVERYONE ELSE IN THIS AREA!

WHY, THE STUNNED DRIVERS WOULD COLLIDE IN TERRIBLE CRASHES! BATMAN, WE'VE GOT TO STOP THAT!

BUT AS FATEFUL SECONDS CREEP TOWARD NOON...

THEY COULD BE IN ANY BUILDING! WE'VE NO TIME TO SEARCH THEM ALL!

THEIR PLAN IS TO GET AWAY FAST AFTER THE ROBBERY AND TO USE THE PROJECTOR TO STOP PURSUIT! SO THEY'D BE IN A VAN-- LIKE THAT ONE!

AND WHEN THE REAR DOORS OF THE BIG VAN OPEN...

IT'S TIME-- WE'LL TURN THE SONIC BEAM ON THE MONEY-TRUCK AND ALL OTHER TRAFFIC, TO CREATE CONFUSION!

NO YOU WON'T, CAIRD--

AND BEFORE THE DEADLY WEAPON CAN BE UNLOCKED...

YOU GOT WAY OFF THE BEAM AND YOU'LL BE PUT BACK ON IT-- IN PRISON!

BUT WHEN BATMAN RETURNS THE STOLEN APPARATUS...

BATMAN, THIS SONIC-BEAM PROJECTOR PROVED SO DANGEROUS THAT WE WANT YOU TO KEEP IT!

I KNOW A SAFE PLACE FOR IT!

LATER, IN THE GREAT HALL OF TROPHIES IN THE BAT-CAVE...

A TROPHY OF OUR STRANGEST MYSTERY-- THE MYSTERY OF OUR OWN IDENTITIES!

AND WE CAN THANK OUR STARS THAT WE ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO EVER SOLVED THAT MYSTERY!

THE END.

BAT MAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

FROM BATMAN NO. 130, MARCH, 1960.

:HA, HA: DO THE FOOLS REALLY BELIEVE THEY CAN COMBAT THE STRENGTH OF OUR GIANT HAND?

IT REACHED FROM THE SKY LIKE A HAND OF DOOM--A COLOSSAL HAND OF AWESOME STRENGTH THAT CRUSHED AND DESTROYED! BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN DARED TO DEFY ITS TERRIBLE POWER--UNTIL THEY FINALLY DISCOVERED THE PURPOSE OF...

the HAND from NOWHERE

BOB KANE

ONE MORNING, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN DROP IN AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

HMPH! A WORKMAN AT THE GOTHAM ZINC WORKS JUST PHONED! HE SAID A GIANT HAND-- HOLDING TWO ALIENS IN IT-- JUST APPEARED IN THE SKY! BAH! LAST YEAR, IT WAS "FLYING SAUCERS"-- NOW IT'S "GIANT HANDS"!

RELAX, COMMISSIONER! ROBIN AND I WILL GIVE THIS PRANKSTER A STERN LECTURE!

CUT ON ARRIVING AT THE ZINC WORKS...

HOLY SMOKE! THE GUY WASN'T KIDDING! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT HAND!

GREAT SCOTT! THE HAND'S CRUSHED THAT ROOF AS THOUGH IT WERE PAPER!

LOOK! IT'S SEIZING SOME ZINC!

THOSE TWO ALIENS LOOKING ON-- THEY MUST CONTROL THE HAND! IF WE CAN CAPTURE THE ALIENS, MAYBE WE CAN FORCE THEM TO STOP THE HAND!

THANKS TO OUR LANGUAGE-SCRAMBLERS THAT INSTANTLY TRANSLATE ANY LANGUAGE, INCLUDING OURS, TO ALL EARS WITHIN HEARING RANGE-- WE KNOW WHAT THOSE EARTHLINGS ARE PLANNING! GNARL -- STOP THEM!

INSTANTLY, THE COLOSSAL HAND CONTEMPTUOUSLY THRUSTS ONE HUGE FINGER FORWARD...

UHHH!

DESPERATELY, BATMAN TRIES TO FIGHT OFF THE NUMBING EFFECT OF THE TERRIBLE BLOW AS HE SEES...

THE HAND -- ABOUT TO HIT ROBIN! GOT TO SAVE HIM -- BUT I'M TOO WEAK TO GET UP! THIS BARREL...

SUMMONING UP HIS STRENGTH, BATMAN DRIVES HIS FEET AT THE BARREL, AND...

IT WORKED!

BAH! WHY SHOULD WE -- WHO CONTROL THE GIANT GNARLS OF OUR WORLD -- WASTE PRECIOUS TIME ON THE PUNY PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD?

TRUE! BESIDES, WE ALREADY HAVE THE FIRST OF THE MATERIALS WE NEED! LET US RETURN TO OUR OWN DIMENSION!

ABRUPTLY, AS THE ALIENS STEP INTO THE GIANT HAND, IT BEGINS TO GLOW WITH TERRIBLE INTENSITY...

UHHH -- IT'S SO BRIGHT -- I CAN'T SEE!

GREAT SCOTT! NOT EVEN DARK SUN GLASSES COULD SHUT OUT THAT GLARE!

THEN, THERE IS A SUDDEN PUFF OF SMOKE -- AND WHEN IT FINALLY CLEARS...

GONE -- BACK TO ANOTHER DIMENSION! GOSH, BATMAN -- WHAT DO THOSE ALIENS WANT MATERIALS FOR?

I DON'T KNOW, ROBIN -- BUT I DO KNOW THEY NEED MORE MATERIALS FROM OUR WORLD! THEY'LL BE BACK, ROBIN -- THEY'LL BE BACK!

THE NEXT DAY, AN ALERTED CITY FEARFULLY AWAITS THE RETURN OF THE GIANT HAND FROM NOWHERE!

BOBBY, COME INTO THE HOUSE -- HURRY -- HURRY!

WARNING TO ALL CITIZENS! THE HAND MAY APPEAR AT ANY TIME! STAY OFF THE STREETS!

SOON AFTER, ABOVE A COPPER MINE, THERE IS A GIANT BURST OF SMOKE--A BLINDING GLARE--AND AFTERWARDS...

THE GIANT HAND!

GULP! IT--IT'S PICKING UP THAT CART OF COPPER ORE!

THE MELTING POINT OF THIS MATERIAL PASSES THE TEST!

GOOD! MATERIAL OF THIS NATURE IS RARE IN OUR WORLD! SOON WE SHALL HAVE ALL THE MATERIALS WE NEED FOR OUR NEW *DIMENSION-TRANSMITTER* THAT WILL WIDEN AN OPENING INTO THIS WORLD!

ABOUT MID-DAY, THE HAND REAPPEARS ALONE BEFORE A GUARDED GOVERNMENT VAULT...

HOLY SMOKE! IT SNAPPED THE CANNON BARREL LIKE A CELERY STALK!

SNAP!

VALIANTLY, RIFLEMEN RUSH UP AS THE TITANIC HAND SMASHES INTO THE VAULT CONTAINING A VAST FORTUNE OF PRECIOUS PLATINUM...

IT'S NO USE--WE'RE ONLY WASTING BULLETS!

CRASH!

THAT NIGHT, BATMAN SPEAKS AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF TOP SCIENTISTS...

THE PATTERN IS CLEAR NOW! THUS FAR, THE ALIENS HAVE OPENED A SMALL HOLE IN OUR DIMENSION THAT CAN ONLY ADMIT THE *HAND* OF A GIANT *GNARL*-- SO THEY ARE RAIDING US FOR RAW MATERIALS THEY NEED FOR A MORE POWERFUL DIMENSIONAL-TRANSMITTER!..

...A TRANSMITTER THAT WILL OPEN A *LARGER* HOLE--SO THAT AN *ARMY* OF GIANT *GNARLS* THEY CONTROL CAN PASS THROUGH-- AND *INVADE OUR WORLD!*

THE NEXT DAY, AS THE BAT-PLANE PATROLS THE SKIES...

GOSH, BATMAN-- THE ALIENS HAVE TAKEN ZINC-- COPPER--PLATINUM! WHAT WILL THEY GO FOR NEXT?

HERE COMES YOUR ANSWER NOW, ROBIN!

CALLING BAT-PLANE! HAND HAS APPEARED AT PIER M--IS SEIZING CARGO OF TIN FROM BOLIVIAN LINER!

TIN

SOON AFTER...

TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS, ROBIN--I'M GOING TO GET THE LOOP OF CHAIN READY!

LOOK! GNARL-- GO UP AND CRUSH THAT FLYING MACHINE!

AS IF TRYING TO SWAT A MOSQUITO, THE GIANT HAND SWIPES AT THE BAT-PLANE, BUT...

PHEW! THAT ALMOST SLAPPED US OUT OF THE SKY!

YES--BUT NOW THAT WE'RE *ABOVE* THE *HAND*, AS WE WANTED, I CAN GO OUT ON THE ROPE LADDER!

SWIFTLY, LIKE A STEEL LASSO, A LOOP OF CHAIN IS DROPPED BY BATMAN AROUND ONE HUGE FINGER...

IT'S HOOKED ON, ROBIN! THE INSTANT I GET INTO THE PLANE-- GET GOING!

INSTANTS LATER, ROBIN PILOTS THE BAT-PLANE AROUND AND AROUND THE HAND--AS CHAIN WINDS ABOUT IT FROM A DRUM...

LET'S HOPE THE CHAIN HOLDS, ROBIN!

BUT AS THE GARGANTUAN HAND FLEXES ITS FINGERS...

GREAT SCOTT! THE CHAINS SNAPPED LIKE ROTTED STRINGS!

SNAP!

SNAP!

SNAP!

REACHING OUT, THE HAND SEIZES THE CHAIN TRAILING FROM THE BAT-PLANE--AND SNAPS IT LIKE A WHIP!

GOOD HEAVENS! IF THE HAND GETS A CHANCE TO SNAP THE CHAIN AGAIN, THE BAT-PLANE WILL CRACK APART FROM THE STRAIN! I'VE GOT TO JETTISON THE DRUM-- FAST!

BATMAN'S RUSE WORKS JUST IN TIME AS...

WE'RE FREE! BUT WE'D BETTER KEEP GOING-- BEFORE THE HAND SNATCHES AT THE BAT-PLANE!

SOON AFTER...

OKAY, BATMAN-- NOW WHAT?

WE CAN'T DO ANY GOOD UP HERE ANY MORE--SO WE MIGHT AS WELL LAND, AND HOPE THE POLICE CAN KNOCK OUT THE ALIENS WITH THEIR GAS GUNS!

LATER... THE FOOLS! DO THEY REALLY BELIEVE THEY CAN USE THEIR GAS GUNS AGAINST US BEFORE OUR GNARL SMASHES THEM?

HMMM!

HE'S RIGHT, MEN! IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO RISK YOUR LIVES! LET ME HANDLE THIS!

WARILY, AN ALIEN DRAWS HIS FLAME-PISTOL-- BUT BATMAN ONLY SPEAKS!

TOOK-A-ROO! IG-VEE TAN-KOO?

HUH?

WE--WE CAN'T WASTE TIME TALKING WITH YOU! GNARL--TAKE US BACK TO OUR OWN DIMENSION!

ON SEIZING THE ALIENS AND THE TIN, THE HAND AGAIN STARTS TO GLOW BRIGHTLY...

THAT'S IT--TURN YOUR BACK ON THE GLOW-- SHADE YOUR EYES SO THAT THEY'RE NOT BLINDED BY THE GLARE--AND WE'LL BE ABLE TO SEE QUICKER WHEN THE GLOW STOPS!

SOON AFTER, THERE IS A SUDDEN PUFF OF DENSE SMOKE--AND WHEN IT FINALLY CLEARS...

QUICK, ROBIN-- INTO THE BAT-PLANE! I'LL EXPLAIN MY ACTIONS LATER! FIRST, I WANT TO SCOUT THIS AREA FROM THE SKY!

MOMENTS LATER...

JUST AS I SUSPECTED--A BIG TRUCK-- AND THE ONLY TRUCK ON THE HIGHWAY THAT LEADS AWAY FROM THE DOCK! THE BLINDING GLARE-- THEN THE DENSE SMOKE-- WAS TO KEEP ALL EYES FROM SEEING THE HAND RETURN TO THAT TRUCK AFTER EACH RAID!

WHA-AAT?

ROBIN, HOW COULD ALIENS FROM ANOTHER WORLD-- WHO HAVE NEVER ENCOUNTERED A GAS GUN BEFORE --KNOW THE POLICE HAD GAS GUNS?

THEY COULDN'T KNOW!

EXACTLY--THAT'S WHY I THEN SPOKE TO THEM IN ESKIMO-- TO TEST THEIR "LANGUAGE-SCRAMBLERS" THAT ARE SUPPOSED TO TRANSLATE ANY LANGUAGE!

SURE! YOU SAID "LOOK! CAN'T YOU SEE IT?" IF THEY'D UNDERSTOOD, THEY'D HAVE INSTINCTIVELY TURNED TO LOOK ABOUT THEM FOR DANGER--BUT THEY DIDN'T!

IF THEY COULD RECOGNIZE GAS GUNS-- AND THEIR "LANGUAGE-SCRAMBLERS" DON'T WORK-- THAT MEANS THOSE "ALIENS" ARE FAKES! THE WHOLE THING WAS A HOAX!

RIGHT! LOOK, ROBIN-- THE TRUCK'S HEADING FOR THAT BARN-- THEIR HIDEOUT!

INSIDE THE HIDEOUT WAITS THAT RENEGADE SCIENTIST WHOM BATMAN HAS OFTEN HELPED SUPERMAN COMBAT--LUTHOR!

WELL, BOSS, I'M GLAD I'M FINISHED WORKING THE CONTROLS OF THE "HAND" YOU INVENTED! THAT WAS OUR LAST JOB!

YES--THE "ALIENS" WILL NEVER APPEAR AGAIN--AND PEOPLE WILL THINK SOMETHING HAPPENED TO OUR TRANSMITTER. THEY'LL BE SO RELIEVED, THEY'LL NEVER SUSPECT THEY WERE HOAXED!

AND THEY WON'T THINK TWICE ABOUT THE $2,000,000 WORTH OF PLATINUM WE GOT!

ONLY BECAUSE I HAD YOU STEAL ORDINARY ZINC AND COPPER FIRST-- AND THEN WORTHLESS TIN, AFTER WE GOT THE PRECIOUS PLATINUM! THAT'S WHY THE POLICE WILL NEVER SUSPECT IT WAS THE PLATINUM WE WERE AFTER ALL THE TIME!

TOO BAD YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP IT, LUTHOR!

BATMAN AND ROBIN!

FRANTICALLY, THE BANDITS DASH ABOUT, TRYING TO AVOID THE ATTACKING CRIME-FIGHTERS...

WHILE THOSE FOOLS ARE KEEPING BATMAN AND ROBIN OCCUPIED, I'LL MAKE MY ESCAPE!

LUTHOR--GETTING AWAY!

BUT MINUTES LATER...

WHAT...? THE HAND!

IT--IT'S GOT ME! WHERE IS IT TAKING ME?

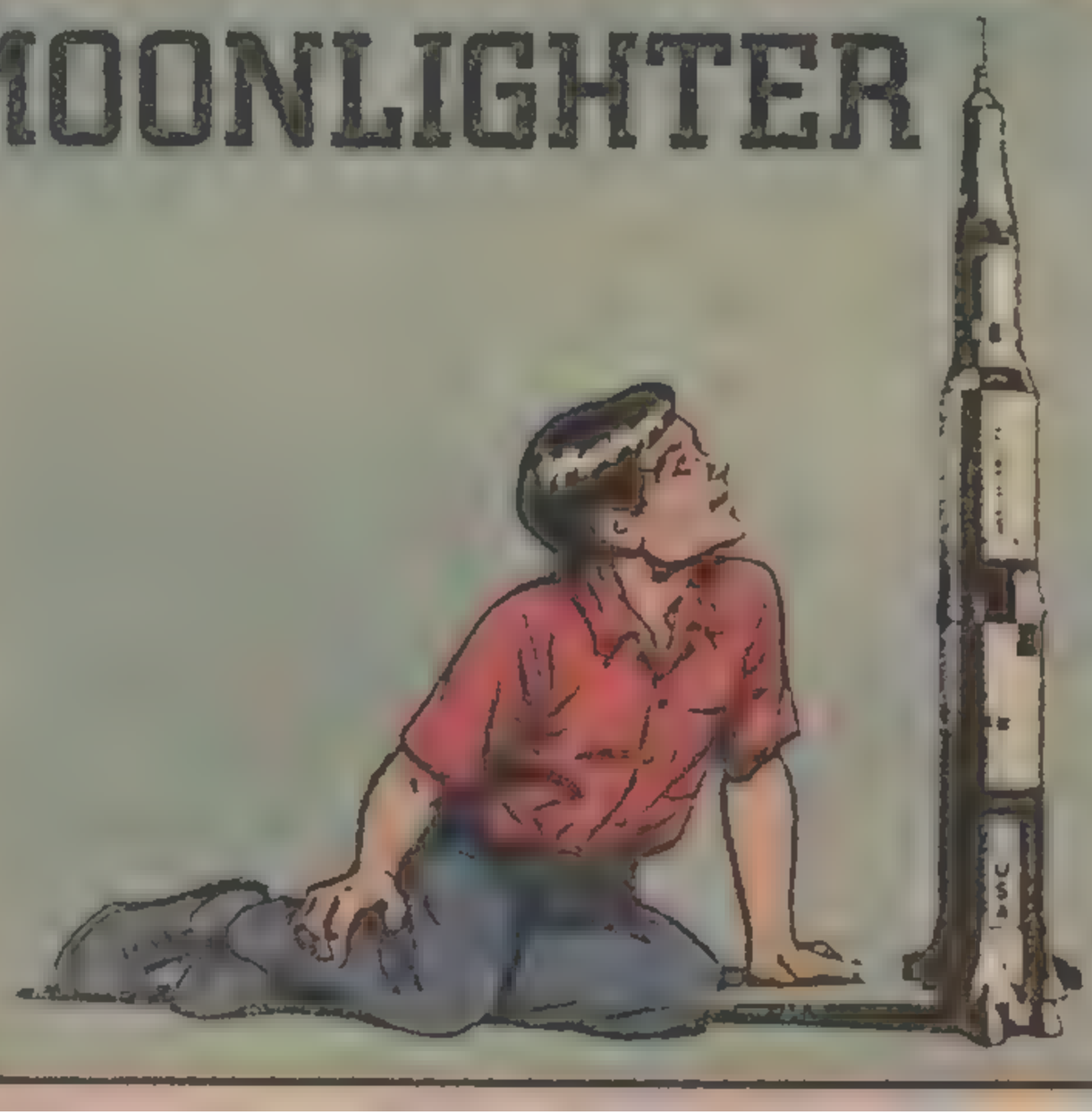
LUTHOR SOON FINDS OUT...

POLICE HEADQUARTERS! YOU--BATMAN--YOU WERE AT THE CONTROLS!

YES, LUTHOR--YOU INVENTED A HAND--AND THAT HAND FINALLY PUT THE FINGER ON YOU!

THE END

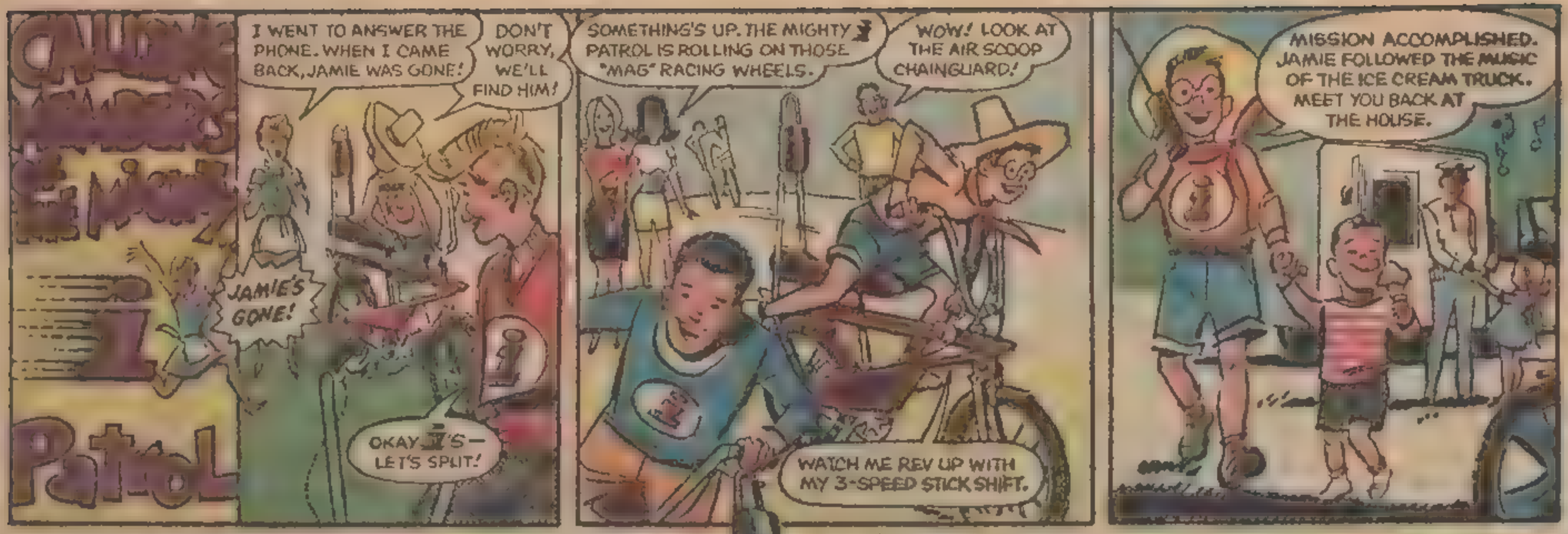
MOONLIGHTER



Build it yourself—Revell's Model-of-the-Month for November, the Saturn V Apollo.

World history was made when man set foot on the moon. Prior to July 20, a team of Revell design-engineers worked for over a year to make sure every detail of our Saturn V is precisely correct. You build all eight stages so they fit together and can be separated. Demonstrate to your friends every step of the wondrous mission. From three-stage launching to moon orbiting and landing. From crucial redocking to earth splashdown. The command module has three astronauts inside; lunar module comes complete with moon base. The 4-foot-high Saturn kit is history's most fascinating one-man voyage or group project for science classes. Under $12 wherever toys or hobbies are sold.

Send 35c for color catalog of Revell kits. Revell, Inc., 4231 Glencoe Avenue, Venice, California 90291


Mighty Mod Patrol
I WENT TO ANSWER THE PHONE. WHEN I CAME BACK, JAMIE WAS GONE!
DON'T WORRY, WE'LL FIND HIM!
JAMIE'S GONE!
OKAY, IT'S— LET'S SPLIT!
SOMETHING'S UP. THE MIGHTY PATROL IS ROLLING ON THOSE "MAG" RACING WHEELS.
WOW! LOOK AT THE AIR SCOOP CHAINGUARD!
WATCH ME REV UP WITH MY 3-SPEED STICK SHIFT.
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED. JAMIE FOLLOWED THE MUSIC OF THE ICE CREAM TRUCK. MEET YOU BACK AT THE HOUSE.
JAMIE WANTS TO JOIN THE MIGHTY PATROL WHEN HE'S BIG ENOUGH TO RIDE A TWO-WHEELER.
SURE HE CAN. ALL HE NEEDS IS AN IVERSON BIKE, AND WANTING TO HELP WHEN THERE'S TROUBLE.
CHOPPER HANDLEBAR!
DOUBLE-CONTOURED SEAT!
DOUBLE-SPACED SAFETY FRAME!
MAG WHEELS
HOT ROD FLAT FENDERS!
HEY, KIDS, THE BEST BIKE STORE IN YOUR TOWN HAS BARRIS-DESIGNED BICYCLES. SEE THEM THERE. IN THE MEANTIME, CUSTOMIZE YOUR PRESENT BIKE WITH THE GEORGE BARRIS KUSTOMIZING KIT. SEND THIS COUPON AND $1.00.

DESIGNED BY GEORGE BARRIS
Whether you're trailing a missing person, or strictly on a fun mission, the going is groovier in Iverson bikes designed by George Barris, the name in Mod Models. King of the Kustomizers Barris has given 'em everything you want: chopper handlebars, "mag" wheels, Hot Rod fenders PLUS all the safety features to keep you going day after fun-filled day. See the Bandito and other new models.

Iverson

Iverson Division of
Steiber Industries
91-31 Queens Blvd.
Elmhurst, N.Y., Dept. SB

I've enclosed $1.00. Please send me the Kustomizing Kit of eleven colorful automotive decals plus George Barris' own booklet "Hints on Customizing Your Bike."

Name_____ Age____
Address_____
State_____ City____ Zip____

THESE 6 PEOPLE
Davy Crockett
Daniel Boone
Buffalo Bill
Kit Carson
TOMAHAWK
POW-WOW Smith
ARE INVOLVED
IN THE MOST
DARING & DIFFERENT
D.C. SPECIAL!

BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

FROM *BATMAN* NO. 118, SEPT., 1958

IT STARTED OUT AS A ROUTINE MURDER CASE, BUT IT BECAME THE MOST CRUCIAL TRIAL *BATMAN* EVER FACED -- FOR THE DEFENDANT PROVED TO BE...

"THE MAN WHO COULDN'T BE TRIED TWICE!"

BOB KANE

Daily Globe

EXTRA

WYLER MURDER TRIAL STARTS TODAY

EXTRA

BATMAN KEY WITNESS FOR DEFENSE

HA, HA... YOU DON'T KNOW IT YET, *BATMAN*, BUT YOUR APPEARANCE AT THIS TRIAL WILL SIGNAL THE END OF YOUR CAREER!

IN GOTHAM CITY, THE MURDER TRIAL OF JAMES LEE BEGINS, AS THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY CALLS HIS FIRST WITNESS...

MR. DAVID DIAL, AS OWNER OF THE *ALL-STAR CIRCUS*, YOU KNOW THE ACCUSED, JAMES LEE?

LEE WAS HALF OF THE TRAPEZE TEAM OF LEE AND WYLER--UNTIL WYLER DECIDED TO DO A SOLO ACT! LEE SWORE HE'D GET EVEN WITH WYLER FOR KICKING HIM OUT!

THE STATE'S NEXT WITNESS--WILLY KEYES, CIRCUS CLOWN!...

MR. KEYES, PLEASE TELL THE JURY WHAT HAPPENED ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 5TH...

WELL--AFTER HIS ACT, WYLER'S HABIT WAS TO GO TO HIS TRAILER TO PAINT! THAT WAS WYLER'S HOBBY--PAINTING! AWHILE LATER, I HEARD A SHOT FROM HIS TRAILER...

"I YELLED TO A POLICEMAN--AND WHEN WE ENTERED WYLER'S TRAILER, THE PLACE SHOWED SIGNS OF A TERRIFIC STRUGGLE..."

LEE! Y-YOU MURDERED HIM!

NO--I DIDN'T! I HEARD A SHOT--FOUND HIM ON THE FLOOR! I WAS TRYING TO LIFT HIM TO THE COUCH, WHEN YOU CAME IN!

THE STATE'S NEXT WITNESS--DR. FORBES OF THE POLICE LABORATORY...

DR. FORBES, JUST WHAT IS A *PARAFFIN TEST*?

WHEN A PERSON FIRES A REVOLVER, GAS PRESSURE TATTOOES HIS GUN HAND WITH INVISIBLE SPECKS OF GUN-POWDER!

UPON LEE'S ARREST, I TOOK A WAX CAST OF HIS HAND! THE CHEMICAL REACTION ON THE CAST SHOWED THAT LEE HAD FIRED A GUN!

YES--A GUN...THE *MURDER* GUN!

NOW, THE ACCUSED MAN'S LAWYER TAKES THE FLOOR--AND MAKES A DRAMATIC ANNOUNCEMENT...

THE DEFENSE NOW CALLS ITS FIRST AND ONLY WITNESS--*BATMAN!*

BATMAN! WOW!

THIS OUGHTA BE EXCITING!

BATMAN, WILL YOU TELL THE JURY WHAT YOU TOLD ME?

ON THAT FATEFUL NIGHT, WYLER CALLED ME AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS! HE SAID HE HAD SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL ME--AND THAT HE WANTED PROTECTION, OR HE WOULD BE MURDERED...

"UPON REACHING THE CIRCUS GROUNDS, WE SPOTTED LEE--AND REMEMBERED LEE'S THREATS TO WYLER--SO WE ASSUMED WYLER WANTED PROTECTION FROM LEE..."

SO FAR, WE'VE TRAILED LEE TO EVERY CONCESSION! IT SEEMS TO ME, ROBIN, AS IF HE'S JUST KILLING TIME BEFORE HE VISITS WYLER...

SHOO

6 FOR 25¢

BUT WE LOST LEE IN THE CROWD, AND LEARNED LATER OF HIS ARREST. AFTER REVIEWING THE FACTS, HOWEVER, I WAS CONVINCED OF LEE'S INNOCENCE--AND CAN PROVE IT, NOW, BY *WRESTLING* WITH THE ACCUSED MAN!

WRESTLING! ... HERE? HIGHLY IRREGULAR... BUT--IF IT WILL SERVE THE ENDS OF JUSTICE, THE COURT HAS NO OBJECTIONS!

THUS FOLLOWS THE MOST FANTASTIC DEFENSE EVER ESTABLISHED IN A COURTROOM...

PRETEND I'M WYLER--STRUGGLING WITH LEE! HE IS WEARING HERE, THE SAME CLOTHES HE WORE ON THE NIGHT OF THE MURDER...

ACCORDING TO THE CLOWN'S TESTIMONY, HE AND THE POLICE CAME UPON LEE JUST AS HIS STRUGGLE WITH WYLER WAS ENDING...

IF LEE HAD BEEN THE ONE WHO STRUGGLED WITH WYLER, HIS HAT WOULD HAVE FALLEN OFF AND BEEN CRUSHED DURING THE FIGHT... BUT WHEN THE POLICE BURST IN, LEE'S HAT *WAS STILL ON HIS HEAD, UNDAMAGED!*

AS FOR THE PARAFFIN TEST, IT PROVED LEE FIRED A GUN--BUT *NOT* THE MURDER GUN! ONLY A FEW MINUTES EARLIER, I'D SEEN LEE FIRING A GUN AT A *SHOOTING GALLERY!*

BATMAN'S TESTIMONY WRECKS THE PROSECUTION'S CASE--AND THE JURY VERDICT IS SWIFT...

WE, THE JURY, FIND THE DEFENDANT--*NOT GUILTY!*

SUDDENLY, MOCKING LAUGHTER SHOCKS THE COURTROOM...

HA, HA... I FOOLED ALL OF YOU--EVEN YOU, *BATMAN!* I *DID* KILL WYLER! I'M GUILTY, YOU UNDERSTAND?... *GUILTY! HA, HA, HA!*

I SPOTTED YOU FOLLOWING ME THAT NIGHT, SO I WORKED OUT A PLAN! I FIRED THAT GUN AT THE TARGET RANGE, FOR A PARAFFIN TEST ALIBI! AFTER SHOOTING WYLER, I OVERTURNED FURNITURE, TO MAKE IT APPEAR WE'D BEEN STRUGGLING!

YOU SEE, I COUNTED ON YOUR DETECTIVE WORK, *BATMAN*! NOW, THANKS TO YOU, I'M FREE--BECAUSE A MAN CAN'T BE TRIED TWICE FOR THE SAME CRIME... *HA, HA, HA!*

BEFORE LONG, THE STUNNING NEWS SWEEPS THE COUNTRY LIKE A PRAIRIE FIRE...

TONIGHT, A NATION IS WONDERING... *IS BATMAN SLIPPING?*

GOSH, SNIFF I NEVER THOUGHT *BATMAN* SOB WOULD LET A MURDERER OUTSMART HIM!

HA-HA! HA-HA-HA-HA!

HOW COULD *BATMAN* HAVE BEEN SO WRONG? THIS IS TERRIBLE... TERRIBLE!

MEANWHILE, IN THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, THE TWO CRIMEFIGHTERS PONDER *BATMAN'S* FATEFUL BLUNDER...

BRUCE--PLEASE... YOU'VE GOT TO EAT SOMETHING!

I WAS *SURE* THAT LEE WAS INNOCENT, DICK... IN FACT, I STILL AM! EVERY INSTINCT TELLS ME I'M RIGHT... I *KNOW* I'M RIGHT!

YET--IF I *AM* RIGHT, AND LEE *IS* INNOCENT, WHY DOES HE PRETEND TO BE GUILTY? INTO YOUR COSTUME, DICK... WE'VE GOT TO SETTLE THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL!

LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN APPROACH THE VICTIM'S TRAILER...

LOOK! A MAN LEAVING THE MURDER SCENE! HE'S DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A CLOWN!

HE'S GOT SOMETHING UNDER HIS ARM! LET'S SEE WHAT HE WANTED SO BADLY...

SWIFTLY, THE CAPED MANHUNTERS CLOSE IN ON THEIR QUARRY...

A ROLLED-UP PAINTING CANVAS! SO THAT'S WHAT YOU STOLE FROM WYLER'S TRAILER!

DESPERATELY, THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE SEEKS A WAY OF ESCAPE...

IF I CAN JUST GET TO THE MERRY-GO-ROUND SWITCH IN TIME...

REACHING THE SWITCH, HE STARTS THE CAROUSEL TURNING -- AND THE SUDDEN MOVEMENT HURLS HIS TWO PURSUERS OFF BALANCE...

I CAN'T RISK TRYING TO RECOVER THAT PAINTING NOW... AND ONCE BATMAN SEES IT, HE'LL BE AFTER ME! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE, FAST!

WHAT...?

THOUGH HIS QUARRY HAS MOMENTARILY ESCAPED, BATMAN STILL HAS THE PAINTING...

A PAINTING OF KEYES, THE CLOWN!

THE PAINTING WYLER WAS FINISHING, WHEN HE WAS MURDERED! THE KILLER MUST'VE JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING ABOUT THE PAINTING THAT COULD EXPOSE HIS IDENTITY!

NOTICE THIS? "-Q"! PAINTERS OFTEN USE ODD SYMBOLS AS THEIR SIGNATURES... BUT WYLER PAINTED THIS FOR ANOTHER REASON -- *TO NAME HIS KILLER!*

HOW DOES "-Q" IDENTIFY THE MURDERER? CAN YOU GUESS?

SOON AFTER...

THERE HE GOES! WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP TO HIM NOW!

QUICK, ROBIN--FLIP THE SWITCH ON THAT WHIRL-A-PLANE RIDE!

AS THE PLANES SPIN ABOUT, BATMAN SWIFTLY LEAPS UP, AND...

MADE IT!

IT'S ALL OVER! I DEDUCED THE "MINUS Q" REFERRED TO THE ONE PLACE WHERE EVERY LETTER IN THE ALPHABET IS USED--EXCEPT Q...

...ON A TELEPHONE DIAL! WYLER NAMED HIS KILLER--YOU, THE CIRCUS OWNER, DAVID DIAL!

LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...

IT WAS YOU WYLER WANTED ME TO PROTECT HIM FROM--NOT LEE!

YES... SOMEHOW, WYLER FOUND OUT I WAS USING MY TRAVELING CIRCUS TO SMUGGLE WANTED CRIMINALS OUT OF VARIOUS STATES! I HAD TO KILL HIM!

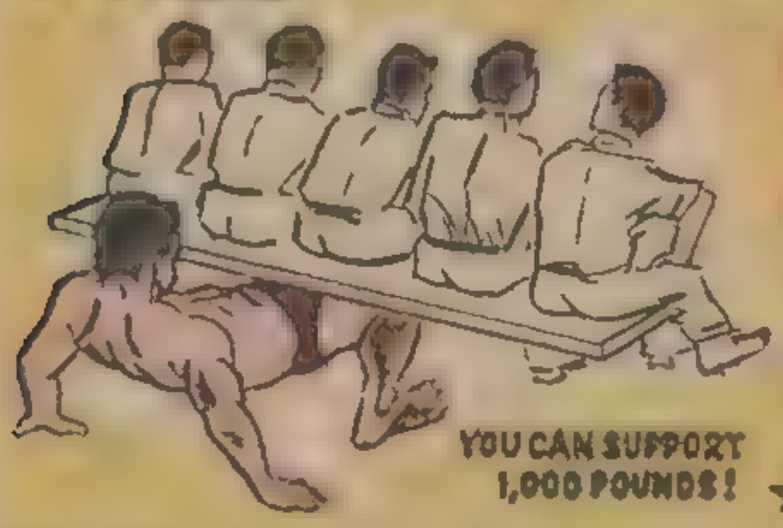
LATER, WHEN I LEARNED YOU'D BE LEE'S WITNESS, I KNEW YOU'D PROVE HIS INNOCENCE... AND YOU'D GO ON SEARCHING FOR WYLER'S KILLER! SO I BRIBED LEE TO SAY HE WAS GUILTY--TO STOP YOU FROM ANY MORE INVESTIGATION!

I'LL HAVE LEE PICKED UP FOR CONSPIRACY! HE'LL LEARN--AS WE'VE ALL LEARNED--NEVER TO UNDERESTIMATE THE GREATEST OF ALL DETECTIVES... BATMAN!

THE END

HOW TO DO STRONG MAN TRICKS

FREE 30 day trial proves it to you!



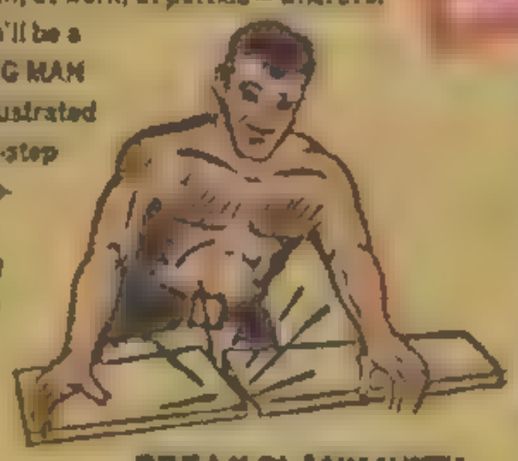
YOU CAN SUPPORT 1,000 POUNDS!

★ Tear telephone book in half
★ Lift weights with one finger
★ Tear deck of cards in half
★ Lift man overhead with one hand
★ Bend heavy spikes with your hands

Now, regardless of your present strength, you can entertain the crowds and amaze your friends with STRONG MAN STUNTS that make you feel like a SUPERMAN.

It's so easy—when you know how. There's an easy trick to doing every BAFFLING STUNT and you can PROVE it to yourself, as our guest, for the next 30 days. Unless you are breaking planks, lifting huge weights, driving nails with your fist and WINNING new admiration—in 30 days, return the complete POWER-PACKED Strong Man's Course and your money back. Fair enough? ONLY because we know YOU can achieve these miracles, do we make such a DARING offer.

Women admire and men respect a person with strength. DON'T BE BULLIED—gain this new POWER and become the invincible leader. Remember—you don't need muscles, you don't have to be strong and big! All you need is the "KNOW HOW" to perform these MIRACLES at home, school, on the beach, at work, at parties—wherever you are. In 10 minutes you'll be a master of baffling STRONG MAN STUNTS! The complete illustrated Course shows you step-by-step how to get on the "road-to-popularity" and gain the RESPECT YOU want. Send $1.00 today and get ready to be the "he-man" you can be!



BREAK PLANK WITH YOUR BARE HANDS!

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

STRONG MAN - DEPT. 17
P.O. BOX 397 - ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570

SEND ME MY ILLUSTRATED BOOK ON HOW TO DO STRONG MAN TRICKS, I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I AM NOT COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITHIN 30 DAYS MY MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED.

☐ ENCLOSED IS MY $1.00 ☐ TWO BOOKS FOR ONLY $1.75
NO C.O.D.'S (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

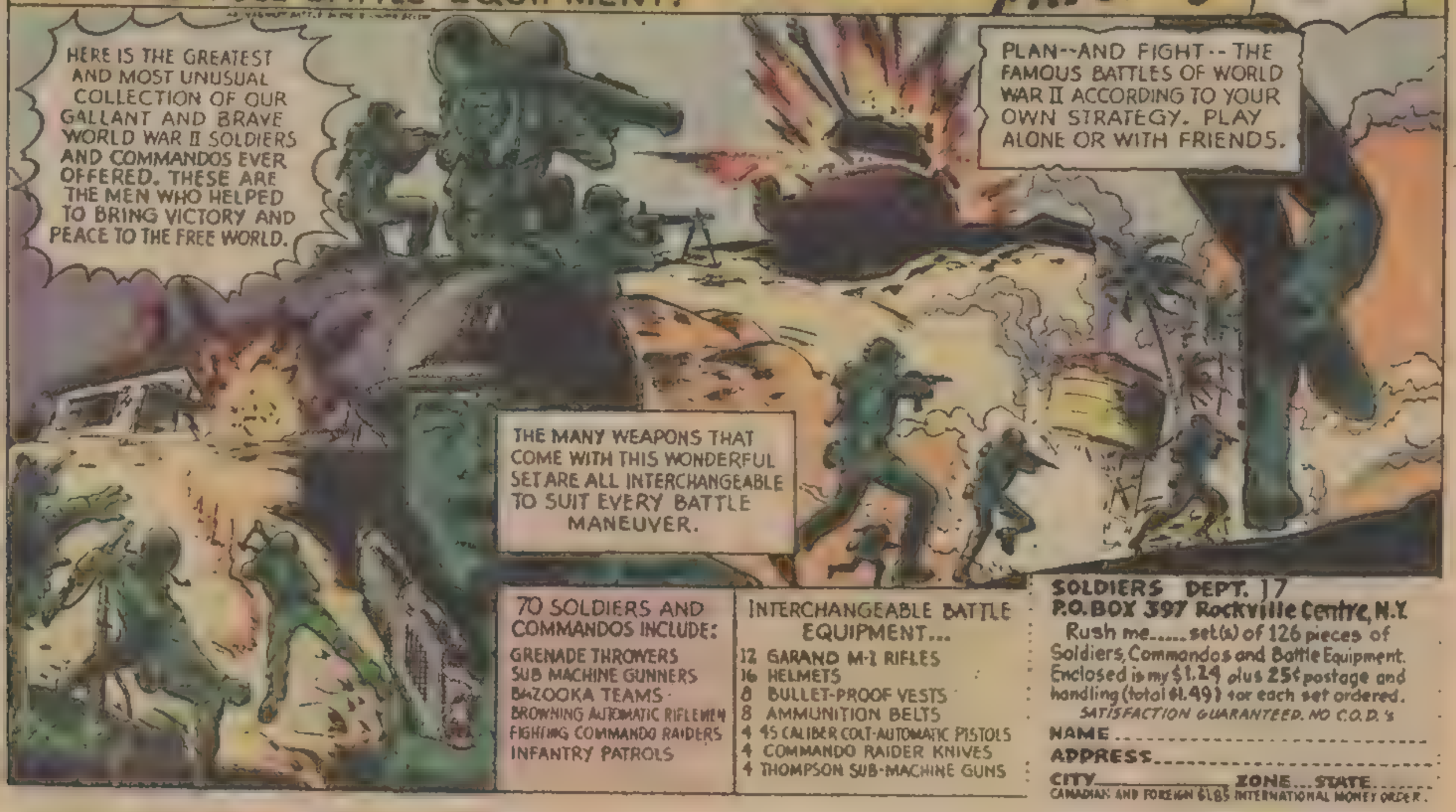
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CANADIAN & FOREIGN ADD $.50 PER BOOK U.S. INT'L. MONEY ORDER.

WORLD WAR II

FIGHTING G.I.'s and COMMANDOS AND FULL BATTLE EQUIPMENT!

ALL YOURS FOR THE AMAZING PRICE of ONLY $1.24


HERE IS THE GREATEST AND MOST UNUSUAL COLLECTION OF OUR GALLANT AND BRAVE WORLD WAR II SOLDIERS AND COMMANDOS EVER OFFERED. THESE ARE THE MEN WHO HELPED TO BRING VICTORY AND PEACE TO THE FREE WORLD.
PLAN--AND FIGHT--THE FAMOUS BATTLES OF WORLD WAR II ACCORDING TO YOUR OWN STRATEGY. PLAY ALONE OR WITH FRIENDS.
THE MANY WEAPONS THAT COME WITH THIS WONDERFUL SET ARE ALL INTERCHANGEABLE TO SUIT EVERY BATTLE MANEUVER.

70 SOLDIERS AND COMMANDOS INCLUDE:
GRENADE THROWERS
SUB MACHINE GUNNERS
BAZOOKA TEAMS
BROWNING AUTOMATIC RIFLEMEN
FIGHTING COMMANDO RAIDERS
INFANTRY PATROLS

INTERCHANGEABLE BATTLE EQUIPMENT...
12 GARAND M-1 RIFLES
16 HELMETS
8 BULLET-PROOF VESTS
8 AMMUNITION BELTS
4 45 CALIBER COLT-AUTOMATIC PISTOLS
4 COMMANDO RAIDER KNIVES
4 THOMPSON SUB-MACHINE GUNS

SOLDIERS DEPT. 17
P.O. BOX 397 Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Rush me.....set(s) of 126 pieces of Soldiers, Commandos and Battle Equipment. Enclosed is my $1.24 plus 25¢ postage and handling (total $1.49) for each set ordered.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. NO C.O.D.'s

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... ZONE ... STATE .....

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN $1.85 INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDER.

BAT MAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

DEEP UNDER THE WAYNE MANSION, LIES THE *BAT-CAVE*--THE ONE CLUE TO *BATMAN'S* SECRET IDENTITY! BUT SUDDENLY THERE IS *MURDER* IN THE *BAT-CAVE*... AND THOUGH *BATMAN* KNOWS THAT TO ARREST THE KILLER MAY WELL MEAN THE END OF HIS CAREER, THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTER GRIMLY PURSUES THE MYSTERY OF...

THE BODY IN THE BAT-CAVE

FROM *BATMAN* NO. 121, FEB., 1959.

ROBIN, SOMEWHERE THERE'S A KILLER IN THE *BAT-CAVE*... AND I'VE GOT TO ARREST HIM--EVEN IF HE THREATENS TO EXPOSE MY SECRET IDENTITY!

NIGHTFALL--AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, PREPARE TO CHANGE TO THEIR OTHER IDENTITIES...

LET'S HEAD DOWN TO THE *BAT-CAVE*, DICK... TIME TO START OUR USUAL PATROL!

RIGHT BEHIND YOU, BRUCE!

NOT UNTIL THEY DON THEIR CRIME-FIGHTING COSTUMES AND START OUT OF THEIR SECRET *BAT-CAVE* DO THE TWO FRIENDS DISCOVER...

A *BODY!*

THERE'S A BRUISE ON HIS FOREHEAD... SOMEBODY CLUBBED HIM! HE WAS MURDERED--RIGHT HERE IN THE BAT-CAVE UNDER OUR MANSION!

AND...AND WHOEVER KILLED HIM NOW KNOWS YOUR SECRET IDENTITY!

I'VE SEEN THIS MAN'S FACE IN OUR FILES! HE WAS ALEC WYRE, THE ELECTRONICS GENIUS WHO TURNED CRIMINAL!

YES--WYRE'S BUSINESS WAS SELLING HIS INVENTIONS TO THE UNDERWORLD!

ON SEARCHING THE DEAD MAN'S POCKETS, BATMAN FINDS A BOOK...

THIS CONTAINS THE NAMES OF WYRE'S CRIMINAL CLIENTS... THE LAST PAGE HAS THE NAMES OF HIS MOST RECENT CUSTOMERS! I'VE A HUNCH ONE OF THESE THREE MEN IS WYRE'S KILLER!

JIGGER MULANE
DAN DOLSON
HANK PURDY

WYRE MAY HAVE WORKED OUT SOME INVENTION TO LOCATE THE BAT-CAVE, AND TOOK HIS CUSTOMER WITH HIM! NOW IT'S MY DUTY TO FIND WYRE'S KILLER, EVEN THOUGH IT MEANS THE EXPOSURE OF MY SECRET IDENTITY!

INSTANTLY, THE GANGSTER WHEELS OUT A BIZARRE CONTRAPTION, AND...

ZZZ

BATMAN!... THE BATMOBILE'S STOPPED DEAD!

SOON AFTER, THE SLEEK BATMOBILE APPROACHES THE GARAGE HIDEOUT OF THE FIRST NAME ON THE LIST--JIGGER MULANE...

BOSS--TROUBLE'S COMIN'... BATMAN AND ROBIN!

THEY'LL FIND WYRE'S INVENTION... BUT WE'LL STOP THEM COLD WITH IT!

SO THAT'S THE ELECTRONIC GADGET WYRE SOLD JIGGER... A MACHINE THAT CAN STALL CAR MOTORS! MIGHTY HANDY AGAINST POLICE CARS!

WILL NEVER CATCH UP WITH JIGGER NOW!

MAYBE WE CAN--WITH THAT MECHANIC'S TROLLEY!

LIKE A RUNAWAY TOBOGGAN, THE TROLLEY SHOOTS DOWN A STEEP HILL...

JIGGER WAS DRIVING DOWN A DEAD END STREET-- SO HE'LL HAVE TO TURN THAT CORNER BELOW! WE'LL TAKE THIS SHORT-CUT AND HEAD HIM OFF!

OKAY, ROBIN-- GET READY TO JUMP!

HUH?

YOU'RE IN AN AWFUL HURRY TO GET NO PLACE!

THE JIG IS UP, JIGGER!

AS THE CAR BRAKES TO A HALT...

JIGGER, I'M ARRESTING YOU FOR THE MURDER OF ALEC WYRE!

WYRE? I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HE WAS DEAD! THE LAST TIME I SAW WYRE WAS A WEEK AGO, WHEN HE SOLD ME HIS INVENTION!

AFTER BATMAN JAILS THE GANGSTERS...

HOW DO WE KNOW JIGGER ISN'T LYING?

IF HE'D KILLED WYRE, HE WOULD HAVE THREATENED TO EXPOSE MY SECRET IDENTITY WHEN I ARRESTED HIM! WYRE'S KILLER HAS TO BE ONE OF THE OTHER TWO NAMES ON THE LIST... WE'LL TRY DAN DOLSON NEXT!

POLICE

LATER, WHERE A PETTY HOODLUM TAKES A ROUTE THROUGH SECLUDED ALLEYWAYS...

THAT MAN IS A MEMBER OF DOLSON'S GANG! FROM THE WAY HE'S HURRYING, HE MUST BE MEETING THE GANG SOMEWHERE, TO PULL A ROBBERY!

THE TRAIL LEADS TO A BANK, WHERE THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ARRIVE IN TIME TO SEE A FANTASTIC OCCURRENCE ...

GREAT SCOTT! WYRE SOLD DOLSON A MACHINE THAT MAKES *ARTIFICIAL LIGHTNING* BOLTS!

BOSS! THERE'S *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN!* THEY'RE WISE TO US!

NATIONAL BANK

ZZZZ

CRACK

GET BACK, *ROBIN!*

ZZZZZZ

CRUNCH

AS THE LIGHTNING-GUN FIRES AGAIN, *BATMAN* SNATCHES UP A SACK FROM AN ADJOINING CONSTRUCTION SITE, AND HEAVES...

SNAP

THE SACK RIPS TO SHREDS, SENDING OUT A STINGING SPRAY OF SAND...

OWW!

YIPE!

BATMAN, FROM THE WAY YOU PUT THEM TO SLEEP, THEY OUGHT TO RE-NAME YOU THE *SANDMAN!*

DOLSON, I'M ARRESTING YOU FOR THE MURDER OF ALEC WYRE!

MURDER? LOOK, *BATMAN,* I ADMIT TRYING TO PULL THIS BANK JOB -- BUT NOT MURDER! I NEVER MURDERED WYRE!

ONCE AGAIN, BANDITS ARE JAILED--AND ONCE AGAIN, BATMAN FACES AN UNSOLVED MYSTERY...

DOLSON DIDN'T THREATEN TO EXPOSE YOU, EITHER--SO HE COULDN'T HAVE KILLED WYRE!

THAT LEAVES ONLY ONE NAME--HANK PURDY! HE HAS TO BE THE MURDERER--AND THE ONE MAN WHO KNOWS MY SECRET IDENTITY!

PURDY? HE'S THAT GANGSTER FROM OUT OF TOWN!

YES...WHEN I HEARD THAT HE CHECKED IN AT A HOTEL HERE, I SENT HIM A BOX CONTAINING A BAT--AS A WARNING TO LEAVE GOTHAM CITY! HE'S BACK IN HIS HOME TOWN NOW, SO WE'LL HAVE TO GO THERE TO QUESTION HIM!

LATER, AS THE BATMOBILE APPROACHES PURDY'S OUT-OF-TOWN HEADQUARTERS...

LOOK...PURDY'S HELICOPTER! HE MUST HAVE BEEN TIPPED OFF ABOUT OUR BEING ON THE TRAIL OF WYRE'S CUSTOMERS--AND NOW HE'S TRYING TO MAKE A GETAWAY!

SOON...

THE SIGNALS ARE COMING IN STRONG NOW! HE'S USING THAT ABANDONED OLD FIREHOUSE AS HIS 'COPTER'S HANGAR! LET'S GO IN AND GET HIM!

BEEP! BEEP

SWIFTLY, BATMAN AIMS AN ODD WEAPON AT THE PLANE'S FUSELAGE, AND...

POP!

PURDY DOESN'T KNOW IT--BUT HIS 'COPTER IS NOW CARRYING A TINY, POWERFUL TRANSMITTER THAT BEAMS ULTRA-HIGH FREQUENCY SIGNALS TO THE BATMOBILE RECEIVER!

MOMENTS LATER...

YOU!

EVEN AS THE FIRE HOOK WHISTLES AT THEM, BATMAN WHIPS UP THE NOZZLE OF A HOSE, AND...

CLANG

FRANTICALLY, THE TRAPPED CRIMINAL FLEES UPSTAIRS TO THE SLEEPING QUARTERS, BUT...

GOT HIM, BATMAN-- HE'S TAME NOW!

AND THAT'S WHEN THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTER HEARS THE MOST FEARFUL OF ALL THREATS...

HOLD IT, BATMAN! I KNOW YOUR SECRET IDENTITY! LET ME GO, OR I'LL TELL EVERYBODY WHO YOU ARE UNDER THAT MASK!

ABRUPTLY, IN THAT BRIEF MOMENT OF SURPRISE...

BATMAN! HE'S SLIDING DOWN THE FIRE POLE!

BUT AS PURDY RACES OUT OF THE FIREHOUSE, A FIGURE SWOOPS DOWN FROM ABOVE...

OOF!

BAH! I REMEMBERED WYRE HAD SOME INVENTION TO EXPOSE YOUR SECRET IDENTITY-- SO I FIGURED TO STARTLE YOU WITH A BLUFF!

BLUFF? YOU MEAN--YOU DON'T KNOW MY SECRET IDENTITY?... AND YOU DIDN'T KILL WYRE?

WYRE--DEAD? THE LAST TIME I SAW HIM, HE WAS ALIVE--TRYING TO SELL ME AN INVENTION IN MY HOTEL ROOM IN GOTHAM CITY! BUT WHEN THAT BAT FLEW OUT OF THE BOX YOU SENT ME, I LAMMED FAST, LEAVING WYRE IN THE ROOM!

THUS, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS CAREER, BATMAN SEEMS DOOMED TO DEFEAT...

I'VE FAILED, ROBIN! SOMEWHERE THERE'S A MURDERER--A MURDERER WHO KNOWS MY SECRET IDENTITY--AND I HAVEN'T BROUGHT HIM TO JUSTICE!

SUDDENLY, AS THE BATMOBILE NEARS THE BAT-CAVE'S SECRET ENTRANCE...

LISTEN! HIGH FREQUENCY SIGNALS! I LEFT THE RECEIVER ON... AND THE CLOSER WE GET TO THE BAT-CAVE, THE STRONGER THEY BECOME!

SOMEBODY'S INSIDE THE BAT-CAVE, SENDING OUT SUPER-SONIC SIGNALS! IT MUST BE THE KILLER!

TAKING THE PORTABLE RECEIVER, BATMAN TRAILS THE SUPER-SONIC SIGNALS DEEP INTO THE RECESSES OF THE BAT-CAVE, WHERE...

HOLY SMOKE! IT'S COMING FROM THE BAT-ROOST!

LOOK, ROBIN--ONE OF THOSE BATS HAS SOMETHING ATTACHED TO ITS LEG!

AFTER NETTING THE BAT...

IT'S A TINY SUPERSONIC TRANSMITTER, LIKE THE ONE WE HAVE!

NOW I UNDERSTAND, ROBIN! NOW I CAN RECON-STRUCT EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED...

"WHEN HANK PURDY LEFT WYRE ALONE IN THE HOTEL ROOM WITH THE BAT I SENT PURDY, WYRE GOT AN IDEA..."

THAT BAT--IT COMES FROM THE BAT-CAVE! I CAN ATTACH A TINY SUPERSONIC TRANSMITTER TO ITS LEG--AND IT'LL BEAM A TRAIL RIGHT TO ITS NEST!

"SURE ENOUGH, LIKE A HOMING PIGEON, THE BAT RETURNED HERE, LEAVING A SUPERSONIC TRAIL THAT WYRE FOLLOWED..."

THE ENTRANCE TO THE BAT-CAVE... AND THAT'S THE WAYNE MANSION NEARBY! COULD-- COULD BRUCE WAYNE BE BATMAN?... I'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!

BEEP! BEEP!

BUT AS WYRE ENTERED THE *BAT-CAVE*, HIS FLASHLIGHT DISTURBED THE BATS...

GO AWAY! GO AWAY!

THE FLASHLIGHT BULB SHATTERED... WYRE BLUNDERED ABOUT IN THE DARKNESS, SLAMMED HIS HEAD INTO ONE OF THE STALACTITES--STAGGERED AND FELL, DEAD!

A CAREFUL SEARCH OF THE STALACTITES CONFIRMS *BATMAN'S* DEDUCTION...

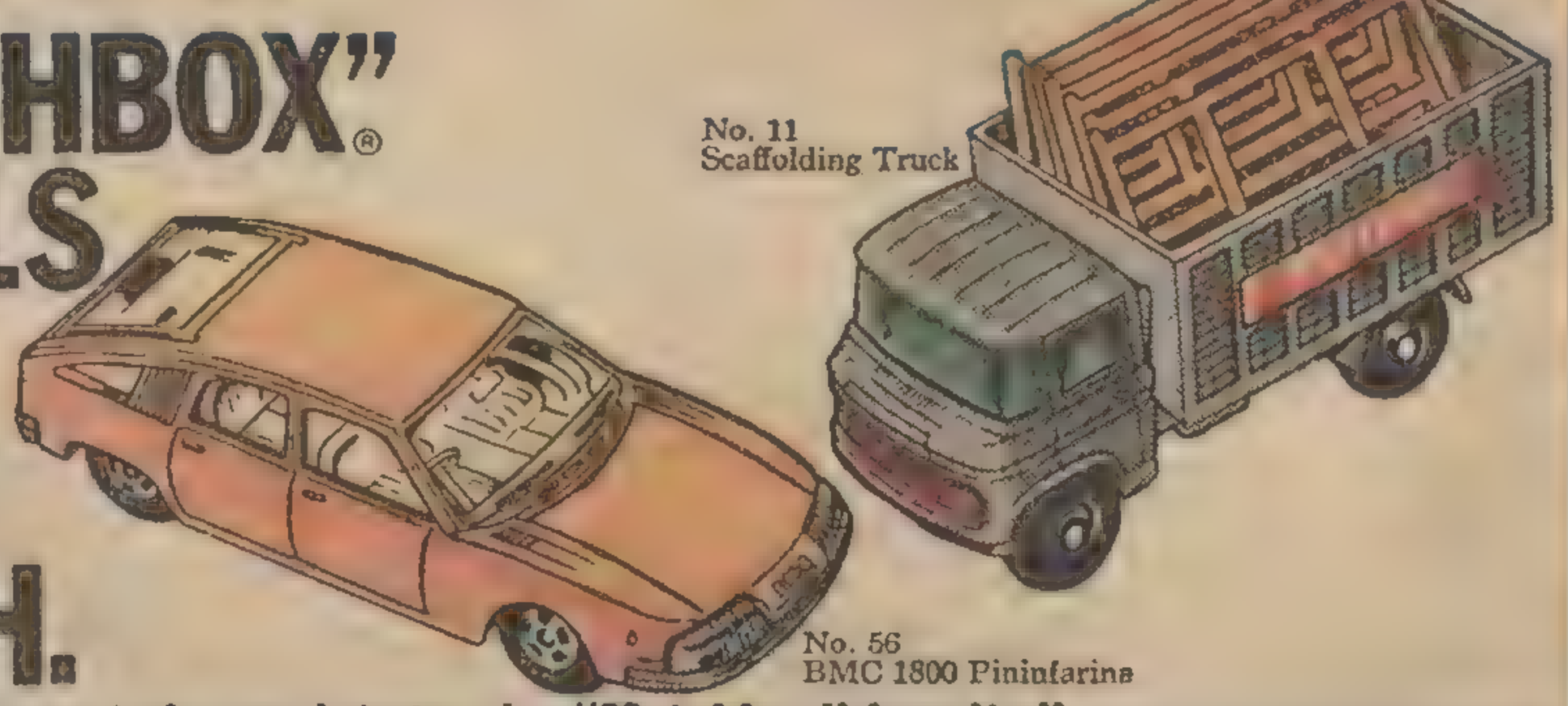
LOOK, *ROBIN*--A CHIP! THIS IS WHERE WYRE HIT HIS HEAD!

GOLLY... THEN NOBODY REALLY MURDERED WYRE! HE KILLED *HIMSELF!* THAT MEANS YOUR SECRET IDENTITY IS STILL A SECRET!

YES, *ROBIN*... IT WAS A BAT THAT BETRAYED MY SECRET IDENTITY--AND IT WAS A BAT THAT SAVED IT!

THE END

NEW "MATCHBOX"® MODELS OF THE MONTH.



No. 11
Scaffolding Truck

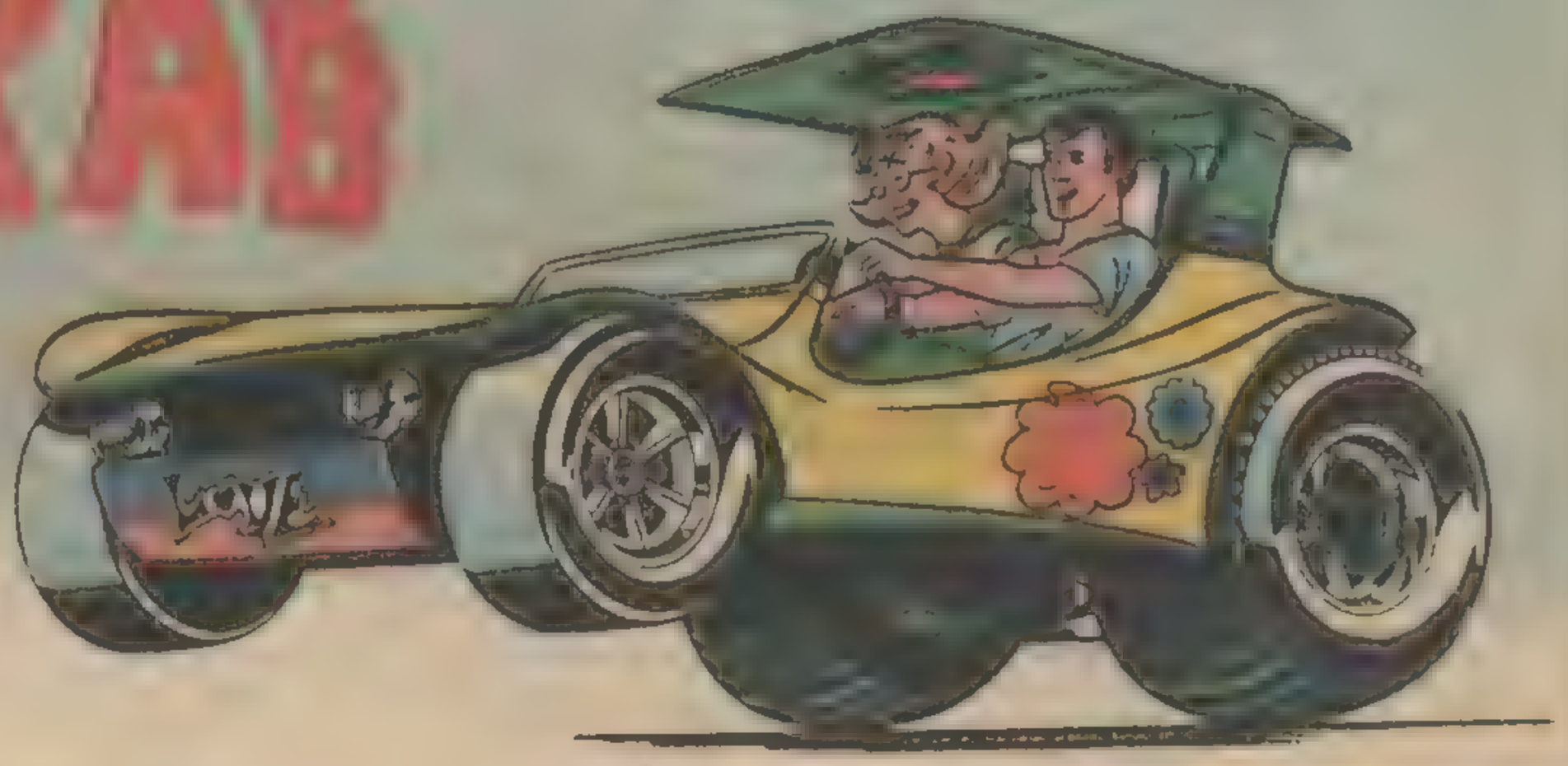
No. 56
BMC 1800 Pininfarina

From fast wheel racers to heavy duty trucks, "Matchbox" does it all. BMC 1800 Pininfarina runs on new Superfast mag wheels, with suspension. Open doors to see details inside. The Scaffolding Truck with tinted windshield is rugged die-cast metal, carries real equipment you can set up. These new models join dozens of others. Write for free catalogue and pick your favorites.

FRED BRONNER CORPORATION, a Division of Lesney Products & Co. Ltd., 120 East 23rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10010

SAND CRAB

The New Monogram Wild and Sandsational "Dune Buster" —Designed by Tom Daniel



Get a Sand Crab at Your Favorite Store

Racing on the sand is big fun! Dune busting is real excitement! Enjoy it with the newest Monogram Fun Car model. It's the wildest, most exciting Dune Buggy of them all. The Sand Crab has a custom body with tinted see-thru roof, molded bucket seats with headrests and a big, bad Volkswagen 1600 engine and two carburetors. There's lots of chrome too, great big dune rubber-like tires and steerable front wheels. "Sand dune" display stand included. Get a Sand Crab kit today. Costs only 2 dollars or less.

Monogram Models, Inc.,
Subsidiary of Mattel, Inc.,
Morton Grove, Illinois.

110 FOREIGN STAMPS . . . only 10c

from all corners of the world

ACT TODAY. We'll rush you this giant offer — 110 stamps from romantic Europe, the exotic Orient, the strange lands of Africa, enchanting South America. All genuine, all different — our greatest offer yet.
GET the fabulous stamps shown PLUS other exciting new and old issues. There are beautiful big pictorials, topicals, commemoratives — stamps from great empires and tiny republics. You'll find wild animals, far-off places and famous people on these wonderful stamps.
YOU GET mint and used — small and giant sized — odd shapes and freaks from Antarctica, Grenada, Pitcairn Island, India, Bhutan, many, many more. Plus colorful stamp selections to examine free. Buy any or none — cancel service anytime.
EXTRA! Learn how to get *free* stamps every month.
If coupon is clipped, send 10¢ to GARCELON STAMP CO., Dept. NCNN, Calais, Maine 04619.

Garcelon Stamp Co., Dept. NCNN, Calais, Maine.
Enclosed is 10¢. RUSH 110 Foreign Stamps and other offers. (PLEASE PRINT)

.....

.....

.....

Complete SUNDAY NEWSPAPER SYNDICATED STORY

BAT MAN ROBIN ... by BOB KANE

THE PLACE: DEATH ROW IN THE STATE PRISON WHERE CONVICTED MEN AWAIT THE ELECTRIC CHAIR! THE TIME 7 P:M!

I WANT THE WARDEN! WARDEN! WARDEN DOYLE!

IT'S BOWER, SIR, THE ONE WHO MURDERED THE RARE-BOOK DEALER!

WARDEN, I WANT TO SEE THE BATMAN! I'VE GOT TO TALK TO HIM!

SO WOULD A LOT OF PEOPLE! I'VE TOLD YOU A DOZEN TIMES THAT THE BATMAN IS TOO BUSY TO ANSWER EVERY CALL!

NOW, WHY DON'T YOU CUT OUT ALL THIS NONSENSE ABOUT BEING INNOCENT? THE BATMAN CAN'T HELP YOU. YOU MIGHT AS WELL CONFESS!

OKAY, WARDEN, I'LL CONFESS- I'LL CONFESS PLENTY...

BUT ONLY TO THE BATMAN!

HMM...A CONFESSION THAT'S DIFFERENT.

WE'LL SEE, BOWER. I'LL PHONE COMMISSIONER GORDON! HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN CONTACT THE BATMAN!

YOU SEE HOW IT IS, COMMISSIONER! A CONFESSION MIGHT GIVE US THE NAME OF THE ACCOMPLICE WE NEVER CAUGHT!

RIGHT! I'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH BATMAN AT ONCE!

PRESENTLY, FROM ATOP THE HEADQUARTERS' ROOF, A SHAFT OF LIGHT SWEEPS OVER THE NIGHT SKY...

JUST THINK, CLANCY, SOMEWHERE, AT THIS VERY MOMENT, A MAN AND A BOY, WHOSE IDENTITY NOBODY KNOWS, ARE ABOUT TO PUT ON THE COSTUMES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

"SOMEWHERE..." THE HOME OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

GOT ANY IDEA WHY WE'RE GETTING THIS HURRY CALL?

NOT YET, BUT WE'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH! HERE, CATCH!

SOMETIME LATER...

BATMAN! WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?

WHAT'S UP, BATMAN? ANYTHING NEW ON THE BOWER CASE?

SORRY BOYS, I CAN'T TELL YOU ANYTHING BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING .. YET!

BOWER IS SCHEDULED TO WALK THAT LAST MILE TONIGHT! TWO TO ONE SAYS BATMAN'S VISIT HAS TO DO WITH BOWER!

HUH! SMART GUY! IT'S A CINCH HE ISN'T HERE FOR A SOCIAL CALL!

THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE HERE! IF YOU HADN'T COME I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D....

EASY! COMMISSIONER GORDON JUST TOLD ME! I'M READY TO HEAR YOUR CONFESSION!

THERE IS NO CONFESSION! IT WAS A TRICK...A TRICK TO GET YOU HERE! I HAD TO DO IT, BATMAN! I'M INNOCENT! AND YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME PROVE IT!

BATMAN ROBIN

AN EMERGENCY CALL SUMMONS BATMAN AND ROBIN TO THE PRISON CELL OF A MAN WHO IS SLATED TO BE EXECUTED THAT NIGHT...

I'M INNOCENT, I TELL YOU! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME! I'M INNOCENT!

BUT...EVEN IF YOU ARE, BOWER, WHAT CAN I DO NOW? YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN TRIED AND SENTENCED! MY HANDS ARE TIED!

MUST I DIE FOR A CRIME I DIDN'T COMMIT? NOBODY BELIEVES ME! I THOUGHT IF YOU'D LISTEN TO ME... BUT I WAS A FOOL TO THINK YOU WOULD!

NO HARM IN LISTENING - EVEN THOUGH YOU DID GET ME HERE BY TELLING THE WARDEN YOU WERE GOING TO CONFESS.

GEE, THANKS, BATMAN! IF YOU REMEMBER THE CASE, I WORKED FOR DORIAN AND STEELE, RARE-BOOK DEALERS! ONE NIGHT...THAT NIGHT...I CAN SEE IT SO PLAINLY...

"I RETURNED TO THE SHOP LATE... SOME INVENTORY WORK TO FINISH. I OPENED THE DOOR...AND THEN I HEARD IT..."

OWN-HE-LP...!

A SHOT! FROM MR. DORIAN'S OFFICE!

"SUDDENLY THE DOOR FLEW OPEN! A MAN, WHOSE FACE I COULDN'T SEE, RUSHED OUT AND BOWLED ME OVER..."

UH!

"I FELL TO MY KNEES! MY HEAD WAS SPINNING! BY THAT TIME THE MAN WAS GONE, AND MR DORIAN . HE WAS..."

DEAD ..MURDERED!

"THE SHOCK OF IT...THAT CRACK ON MY HEAD...I COULDN'T THINK! I STOOPED, PICKED UP THE GUN, STOOD STARING, NOT BELIEVING WHAT I SAW...AND THEN..."

MURDER!

DROP THAT GUN, YOU KILLER!

THEY HAD ME. I HAD ENTRY TO THE SHOP, I KNEW THE SAFE COMBINATION - EVERYTHING FITTED. THEY HELD ME FOR MURDER, BUT IT WASN'T ! ...IT WAS THE OTHER MAN WHO DID IT!

I RECALL THE INCIDENT! THOSE PATROLMEN SAW MR. X RUNNING OUT BEFORE THEY NABBED YOU! BUT HE HAD A CAR WAITING AND GOT AWAY!

THE POLICE THOUGHT HE WAS MY ACCOMPLICE, THAT I HAD FOUGHT DORIAN WHILE HE ESCAPED WITH THE LOOT...VALUABLE AND RARE FIRST EDITIONS! THERE IT IS, THE WHOLE HORRIBLE STORY! YOU BELIEVE ME, DON'T YOU?

HM-MM! GOT ANY IDEA WHO THE MURDERER MIGHT BE? ANY SUSPICIONS?

YES! I'VE BEEN DOING A LOT OF THINKING WHILE IN PRISON - AND I'VE BEEN RECALLING THINGS ABOUT THE ONE MAN WHO ALSO HAD ACCESS TO THE SHOP - WHO NEEDED MONEY DESPERATELY

...A MAN WHO WAS ALWAYS QUARRELING WITH DORIAN ABOUT HIS STOCK LOSSES... AND WHO COULD HAVE STOLEN THOSE VALUABLE BOOKS AND SOLD THEM PRIVATELY! DORIAN'S PARTNER - FRED STEELE!

BAT-MAN ROBIN

SENTENCED TO DIE FOR THE MURDER OF HIS EMPLOYER, DORIAN, A RARE-BOOK DEALER, A MAN HE HEADS INNOCENT TO BATMAN AND ROBIN—AND MAKES A STARTLING ACCUSATION..

I'M POSITIVE THAT STEELE, DORIAN'S PARTNER, WAS THE MAN THE POLICE SAW ESCAPING AND MISTOOK FOR MY ACCOMPLICE!

HM-M! AND YOU BELIEVE HE STOLE THOSE RARE BOOKS TO PAY OFF HIS STOCK LOSSES!

YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME, BATMAN! YOU'VE GOT TO! IT'S THE ONE CHANCE I HAVE TO SAVE MY LIFE!

OKAY, BOWER! WE'LL GIVE YOU THAT CHANCE!

WELL, ROBIN, WE'LL SOON KNOW ONE THING! STEELE'S BROKER IS ONLY A COUPLE OF BLOCKS AWAY!

SOMETIME LATER..

BOWER WAS RIGHT! STEELE *HAS* BEEN LOSING MONEY IN STOCKS!

LOOK! IT'S EIGHT O'CLOCK NOW, AND BOWER'S SCHEDULED TO DIE AT MIDNIGHT! WE'VE GOT EXACTLY FOUR HOURS IN WHICH TO SAVE A MAN'S LIFE!

THE RESIDENCE OF FRED STEELE....

NO ONE HOME!

THAT'S A BREAK FOR US! I WANTED TO SEARCH HIS PLACE, ANYWAY! I SPOTTED AN OPEN WINDOW IN THE ALLEY!

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO LOOK FOR?

LOOT! AS YET THOSE RARE BOOKS STOLEN FROM DORIAN'S SAFE HAVEN'T TURNED UP! IF STEELE IS OUR MAN, HE HASN'T SOLD THE BOOKS BECAUSE THE MURDER MADE THEM TOO "HOT"

BANG!

SOMEONE TOOK A POT SHOT AT US! LUCKY HIS AIM WAS BAD!

THERE HE IS NOW!

THE HUNTING SEASON'S OVER, DANIEL BOONE!

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY HOUSE!

YOUR HOUSE? WELCOME HOME -- MR FREDERICK STEELE!

BAT-MAN ROBIN

By BOB KANE

SEARCHING THE HOME OF FRED STEELE, PARTNER OF THE MAN FOR WHOSE MURDER BOWER IS SENTENCED TO DIE, BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE SUDDENLY FIRED AT—AND GRAB A SHADOWY FIGURE WHO TURNS OUT TO BE ...STEELE!

I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND OUR FRISKING YOU, MR. STEELE! SOMEONE TOOK A SHOT AT US AND THEN I FOUND YOU! INTERESTING, ISN'T IT?

VERY! OF COURSE THAT SOMEONE *COULD* HAVE GONE THROUGH THAT OPEN WINDOW!

NO GUN ON HIM!

THIS BIRD THINKS FAST! HE MIGHT HAVE DITCHED IT SOME PLACE IN THE HALL!

IF I'D HAD A GUN I COULD HAVE USED IT LEGALLY, Y'KNOW! I MIGHT HAVE MISTAKEN YOU FOR BURGLARS!

I SEE YOU'VE BEEN BUSY! WHAT HAVE I THAT COULD POSSIBLY INTEREST YOU?

STOLEN RARE BOOKS! BOWER THINKS YOU ARE THE MAN WHO LOOTED THE SHOP SAFE...THE MAN WHO KILLED DORIAN...THE MAN THE POLICE MISTOOK FOR BOWER'S ALLEGED ACCOMPLICE!

WELL! ACCORDING TO YOUR STATEMENTS, I'M NOT ONE MAN, BUT *THREE* MEN! OH, ALMOST FORGOT I'M THE MAN WHO SHOT AT YOU, TOO! THAT REALLY MAKES ME *FOUR* MEN, DOESN'T IT?

THOSE RARE BOOKS COULD BRING ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY YOUR STOCK LOSSES YOU CAN'T DENY THAT!

I DENY NOTHING! BUT MAY I REMIND YOU THAT BOWER HAS ALREADY BEEN TRIED AND FOUND GUILTY OF THE CRIME? IN FACT, HE'S TO DIE TONIGHT!

HE WON'T IF I CAN PROVE HE'S INNOCENT! THINK THAT OVER!

I WILL...IN THE MORNING... WHEN I READ THE NEWSPAPER STORY OF HOW BOWER DIED IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR! GOOD NIGHT, BATMAN!

WELL, WE CERTAINLY FLOPPED THERE! AND WE DIDN'T GET A CHANCE TO DO MUCH SEARCHING!

THERE'S ALWAYS THE BOOKSHOP! MAYBE WE CAN FIND SOMETHING THE POLICE OVERLOOKED!

NINE O'CLOCK!

AND BOWER DIES AT TWELVE! WE HAVE THREE HOURS! THREE HOURS TO FIND PROOF OF A CONDEMNED MAN'S INNOCENCE!

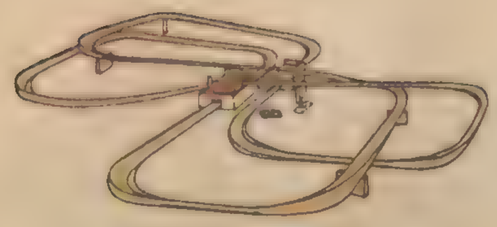
HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET IN?

ONE OF THESE MASTER KEYS SHOULD DO THE TRICK! WON'T BE ANY TROUBLE!

RARE BOOKS

GEE? NO TROUBLE AT ALL!

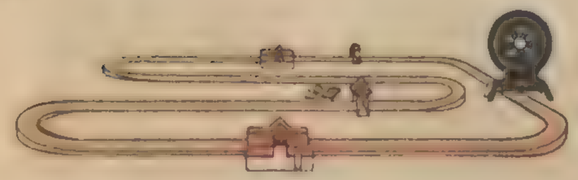
Here are 7 new ways to beat all your buddies. With Hot Wheels race sets.



1

Super-Charger™ Grand Prix Race Set

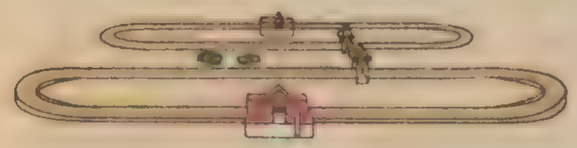
The biggest in the World! Go racing on authentic layouts just like Grand Prix European road races. The set includes 2 two-way Super-Chargers with Stick Shift Control, four Hot Wheels cars, two Lap Counters, 44 feet of hot strip track, eight bridges, twelve 90° curves and eight trestles.



2

Super-Charger Rally & Freeway Set

Go match racing on the Speedway or go over and under on your very own Freeway. You get two Super-Chargers with Stick Shift Control, two Hot Wheels cars, two Lap Counters, two bridges, 25¼ feet of hot strip track, eight 90° curves and four trestles. 12 car rally case doubles as racing arch.



3

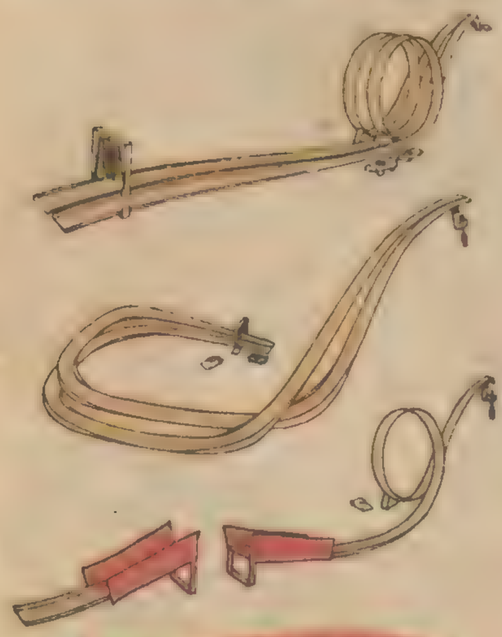
Super-Charger Race Set

Go racing on two matched ovals — authentic "enduro" action like the Speedway. You get two Super-Chargers with Stick Shift Control, two Hot Wheels cars, two Lap Counters, enough track (32½ feet) to make two complete ovals. Converts to giant oval with 2 Super-Chargers.

4

Super-Charger Sprint® Set

It's the Hot Oval of non-stop fun. You get a Super-Charger with Stick Shift Control, a Hot Wheels car, 16¼ feet of hot strip track, two 180° curves, three trestles.



5

Double-Dare™ Race Action Set

Match your stunt skill against the best driver you know. You get two Hot Wheels cars, two Dare-Devil loops, a starting gate, a finishing gate, 28 feet of hot strip track and a clamp.

6

Hot Curves Race Action Set

Challenge your best pal to this rugged course. There's two Hot Wheels cars, two 180° and two 90° curves, 32 feet of hot strip track, a starting gate, a finishing gate, six trestles and a clamp.

7

Stunt Action Set

Loop the loop and fly through the air. Here's everything you need: a Hot Wheels car, a Dare-Devil loop, two Jump Ramps, 16 feet of Hot strip track, a trestle and a clamp.

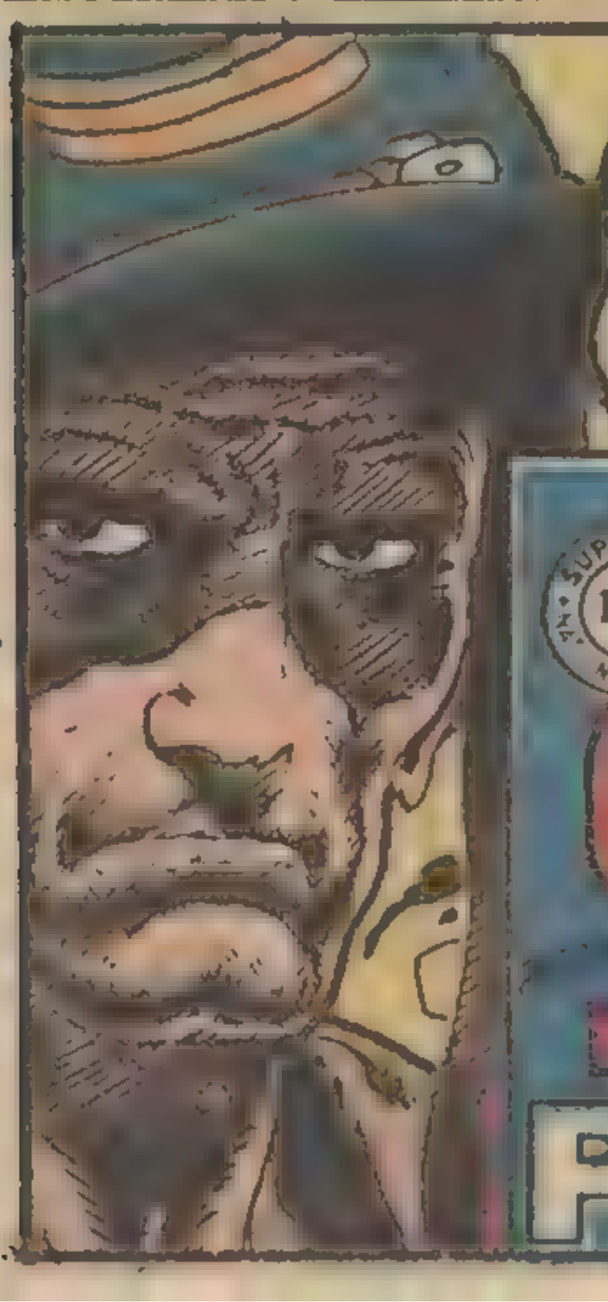
HOT WHEELS

FASTEST METAL CARS IN THE WORLD

© 1969 Mattel, Inc.

FANS OF THE DYNAMIC DUO...

HERE'S A SPECIAL BATMAN AND ROBIN PIN-UP FOR YOU!



BETWEEN THE COVERS OF THIS MAGAZINE ARE THE STRANGEST, UNEXPLAINED STORIES OF WORLD WAR II!

On Sale DEC. 18

GIANT ARMY AT WAR

SGT. ROCK'S PRIZE BATTLE TALES

SUPERMAN DC NAL COMICS

MAR

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

260

BAT-MAN

INTERRUPTED WHILE SEARCHING THE HOME OF FRED STEELE, ACCUSED OF HIS PARTNER'S MURDER BY THE MAN WHO HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO DIE FOR THE KILLING, BATMAN AND ROBIN GO TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME, WHEN SUDDENLY...,

BOOK STORE

GRAB 'EM!

IT'S A TRAP! START SLUGGING, ROBIN!

UH-HH!

HE'S OUT! NOW WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THE KID!

IT'LL BE A CINCH!

OW! DID YOU SAY A CINCH?

OOF! HOW MANY ARMS AND LEGS HAS DIS KID GOT?

THERE'S HIS HEAD!

THANKS FOR THE HELP, OLD-TIMER!

SOMETIME LATER...THE BASEMENT OF A NEARBY TENEMENT...

A GUY NAMED SHAKESPEARE! HAW! HAW!

OH... HELLO!

MY HEAD! WHO HIT ME?

YOU'VE BEEN POKING YOUR HEAD INTO THINGS THAT DON'T CONCERN YOU, SEE? AND MY BOSS DON'T LIKE IT!

YEAH! STEELE SAYS YOU GOTTA...

SHUT UP, YOU STUPID BLABBER-MOUTH!

OHHH! SO STEELE'S BEHIND ALL THIS! OF COURSE! HE FIGURED WE WOULD COME UP HERE AFTER LEAVING HIS HOUSE!

OKAY, SO NOW YOU KNOW, BUT THAT INFORMATION WON'T DO YOU MUCH GOOD! SEE, GUNPOWDER...A LIGHTED CANDLE...IN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES THAT FLAME WILL REACH THE POWDER AND THEN—BOOM—BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL BE JUST A MEMORY!

TICK TOCK TICK TOCK

SLAM

BATMAN ROBIN

INVESTIGATING THE MURDER OF A RARE BOOK DEALER, WHOSE PARTNER HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF THE CRIME BY THE MAN SENTENCED TO DIE FOR IT, BATMAN AND ROBIN FALL INTO A DEATH TRAP...

THE FLAME'S GETTING CLOSER TO THAT GUNPOWDER! THIS ISN'T SO GOOD!

IT MIGHT BE WORSE!

WORSE? WHAT COULD BE WORSE?

THIS CHAIN *COULD* BE JUST OUT OF REACH!

WHIRRR-R

BUT IT ISN'T! GOOD WORK, BATMAN!

IT BLEW THE FLAME OUT! BOY, ARE WE LUCKY THAT FAN WAS THERE AND THE CHAIN HUNG DOWN FAR ENOUGH!

YES...AREN'T WE? AND NOW, THAT THE IMMEDIATE DANGER IS REMOVED, LET'S SEE IF WE CAN WRIGGLE OUT OF THESE ROPES!

WOW! WHAT A BREAK! THEY COULDN'T HAVE PICKED A FLIMSIER CHAIR IF THEY HAD DONE IT ON PURPOSE!

THAT, MY BOY, IS JUST WHAT I WAS THINKING! ...LET'S GET AT THESE ROPES NOW!

CRACK!

MINUTES LATER...

I'M GLAD THAT DUMB LUG LET IT SLIP THAT STEELE IS HIS BOSS! NOW WE KNOW BOWER IS INNOCENT, AND STEELE MURDERED DORIAN AND STOLE THOSE RARE BOOKS!

LOOKS THAT WAY, DOESN'T IT? WELL... HERE'S STEELE'S HOUSE!

NOBODY HOME! DRAWERS CLEANED OUT...WALL SAFE OPEN! *MM-M M!*

OUR BIRD HAS FLOWN! HIS CLOTHES CLOSETS ARE EMPTY!

I'VE GOT IT! HIS THUGS SPOTTED US ESCAPING AND CALLED STEELE. HE CLEARED OUT JUST BEFORE WE GOT HERE!

LOGICAL ENOUGH... AND WHAT'S THIS? "VOLTAIRE"! SAY... THIS EDITION WAS ON THAT LIST OF BOOKS STOLEN FROM THE SHOP SAFE! APPARENTLY, STEELE DROPPED IT IN HIS HASTE!

BATMAN! LISTEN TO THIS! "HORACE HAWKINS, 15 CHATHAM DRIVE. WANTS FIRST EDITIONS, DOESN'T CARE HOW HE GETS THEM. MUST REMEMBER HIM WHEN I WANT TO DISPOSE OF BOOKS FAST."

WELL! THIS MEMO OF STEELE'S FAIRLY SHOUTS OUT THAT HE'S GONE TO SELL THE STOLEN BOOKS TO HAWKINS FOR QUICK CASH! WE'D BETTER GET OVER TO 15 CHATHAM DRIVE -- BUT FAST!

AND WHILE THE BATMOBILE RACES OFF, IN THE DEATH HOUSE TIME RACES FOR BOWER...

WH-WHAT TIME IS IT NOW?

TEN O'CLOCK! YOU'VE GOT TWO HOURS TO GO!

15 CHATHAM DRIVE...

NO, MR. STEELE! I WANT BOOKS BUT I DON'T WANT BOOKS TAINTED WITH BLOOD! I WON'T BUY THEM AT ANY PRICE!

THIS IS IT!

BAT-MAN ROBIN By

ON THE TRAIL OF FRED STEELE, ACCUSED OF THE MURDER OF HIS PARTNER BY THE MAN CONDEMNED TO DIE FOR THE CRIME, BATMAN AND ROBIN DISCOVER HIM IN AN INCRIMINATORY SITUATION....

HELLO, STEELE -- FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!

BATMAN!

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU KNEW ABOUT THIS, BATMAN, BUT I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

THIS...THIS KILLER TRIED TO SELL ME BOOKS THAT HE MUST HAVE STOLEN WHEN HE MURDERED HIS PARTNER, POOR MR. DORIAN! SEE...HERE'S HIS VALISE! HE MUST BE MAKING A GETAWAY!

MY VALISE! H-HOW DID IT GET HERE? THIS IS CRAZY... CRAZY!

I TELL YOU I DIDN'T DO IT! I'M BEING FRAMED! THAT'S THE TRUTH!

YOU'VE DONE A GREAT JOB, MR. HAWKINS! I'LL SEE THAT THE PROPER AUTHORITIES HEAR ABOUT YOU!

NO PUBLICITY, PLEASE! I JUST DID MY DUTY!

PLEASE! I'M INNOCENT! HAWKINS PHONED ME...SAID HE HAD SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL ME...

...AND WHEN YOU GOT THERE, HAWKINS SAW ME APPROACHING FROM THE STREET, PULLED OUT THE VALISE AND WENT INTO HIS ACT!

HUH.. ??

I'VE KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME YOU WERE PICKED FOR A FRAMING! REMEMBER WHEN ROBIN AND I THOUGHT YOU'D SHOT AT US? WELL, I SAW *MOUNTED ANIMAL HEADS* ON THE WALLS OF YOUR ROOM—

OF COURSE! A CRACK SHOT COULDN'T MISS A STATIONARY TARGET AT TEN FEET!

ONE OF HAWKINS' MEN DID THE SHOOTING! THEN THEY LOGICALLY ANTICIPATED OUR NEXT MOVE AND AMBUSHED US AT THE BOOK SHOP! THEY *PURPOSELY* LET IT "SLIP" THAT STEELE WAS THEIR BOSS!

REMEMBER THE "DEATH TRAP"? A BURNING CANDLE ATOP A BARREL OF GUNPOWDER, BUT VERY CONVENIENTLY "OVERLOOKED" WAS THE PULL CHAIN OF AN ELECTRIC FAN DANGLING WITHIN REACH! I STARTED THE FAN AND OUT WENT THE CANDLE FLAME!

SURE! AND THOSE CHAIRS WERE SO WEAK WE BROKE LOOSE FROM OUR ROPES EASILY...*TOO* EASILY!

AND BEFORE, WHILE YOU WERE OUT, HAWKINS' MEN STOLE A VALISE AND CLOTHING FROM YOUR ROOM, PUT THE STOLEN BOOKS IN IT, AND LEFT "CLUES" FOR US TO FIND!

SH-H-H! THERE GOES HAWKINS NOW!

AND AT THAT MOMENT, IN HIS CELL, BOWER'S TIME IS GROWING SHORT...

YOU'RE *SURE* BATMAN HASN'T PHONED YET?

POSITIVE! IF HE IS GOING TO HELP YOU HE'D BETTER DO IT FAST. YOU'VE ONLY *ONE HOUR* LEFT!

ELSEWHERE, A LITTLE LATER...

SO HE FELL FOR IT, EH, HAWKINS?

LIKE A TON OF BRICKS! EVERYTHING'S ALL SET! NOW WE CAN KEEP ON COUNTERFEITING RARE BOOKS WITH NO ONE EVEN SUSPECTING US!

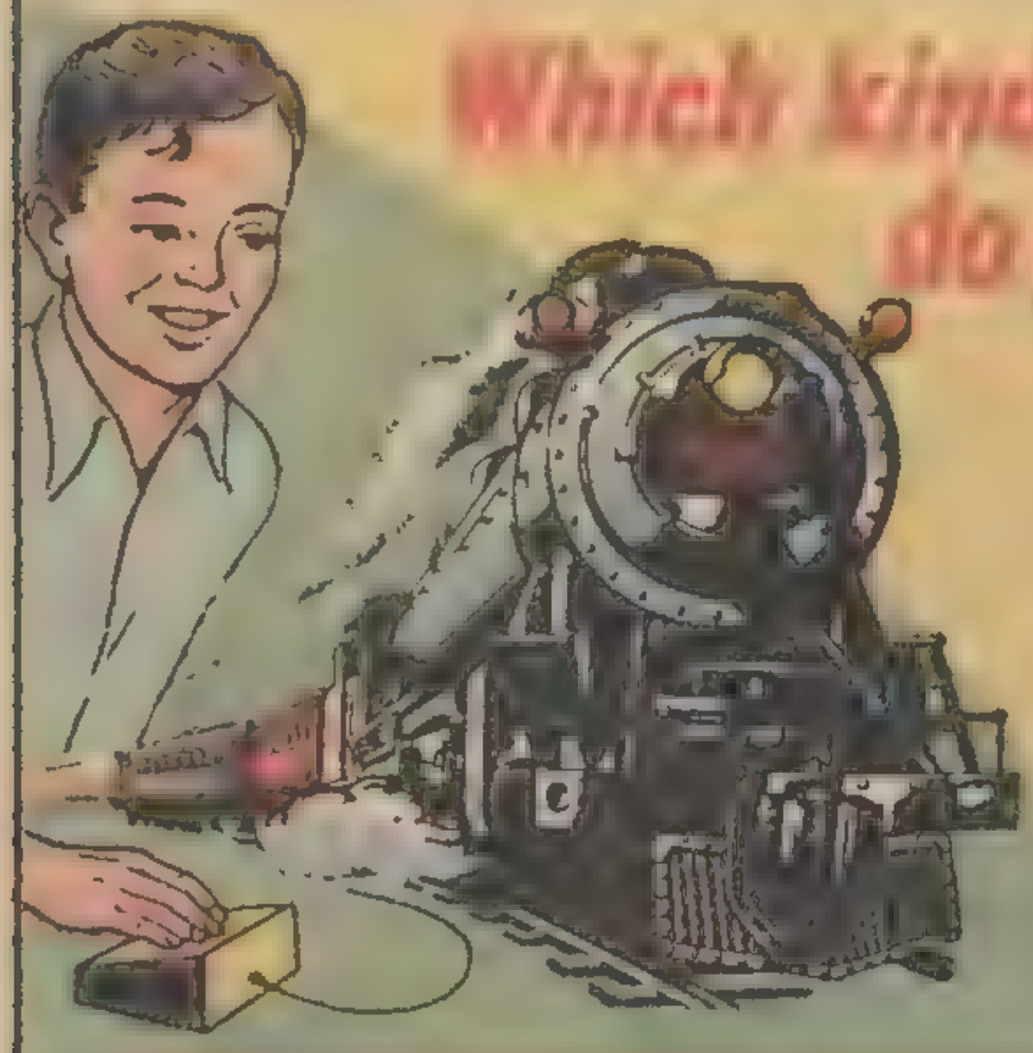
NO ONE?

BATMAN!

GIANT BATMAN

BATMAN
ROBIN
By
UNRAVELING THE FAKED EVIDENCE OF GUILT POINTING TO STEELE ACCUSED OF HIS PARTNER'S MURDER BY THE MAN SENTENCED TO DIE FOR THE CRIME, BATMAN AND ROBIN BURST IN UPON THE MEN WHO HAVE MANUFACTURED THE INCRIMINATING "CLUES"...
WHERE'S HAWKINS? WHERE'S THAT RAT?
THIS ONE'S MINE!
I OWE YOU THAT FOR FRAMING ME!
DROP THOSE GUNS BEFORE I LOWER THE CENSUS BY TWO!
SO IT WAS THIS BOOK COUNTERFEITING RING THAT TRIED TO FRAME ME! I SUPPOSE HAWKINS IS THE R BOSS?
NO...NOT HAWKINS! IN EXACTLY ONE HALF HOUR THEIR BOSS WILL DIE FOR MURDERING DORIAN!
THAT BOSS IS THE SAME MAN WHO IMPLORED ME TO SAVE HIM FROM THE ELECTRIC CHAIR-- BOWER!
BOWER KNEW THE COMBINATION OF THE BOOKSHOP SAFE. AT NIGHT HE'D RETURN, BORROW RARE BOOKS AND BRING THEM HERE WHERE FORGED COPIES WERE MADE! HOURS LATER, HE'D SNEAK THE ORIGINALS BACK WITH NOBODY THE WISER!
BUT YOU TWO SLIPPED UP, DIDN'T YOU?
YES! DORIAN GREW SUSPICIOUS AND WAITED FOR US. BOWER GRABBED DORIAN'S GUN AND SHOT HIM DURING THE SCUFFLE. I SCRAMMED, THINKING BOWER WAS BEHIND ME, BUT HE WAS STILL DIZZY FROM DORIAN'S BLOWS, SO THE POLICE GRABBED HIM!
AS BOWER'S EXECUTION DREW NEAR, HE BECAME DESPERATE HE SENT WORD TO HIS GANG THAT UNLESS THEY DID WHAT HE ASKED, HE'D TALK AND IMPLICATE THEM!
SO THEY FOLLOWED THE PLAN BOWER DREAMED UP TO GET HIMSELF OUT AND YOU IN! WHEW!
WE ALMOST FELL FOR BOWER'S LITTLE DRAMATIC PRODUCTION! WHAT A PLAYWRIGHT HE'D HAVE MADE!
AS ANOTHER PLAYWRIGHT, SHAKESPEARE, PUT IT, "MURDER, THOUGH IT HAVE NO TONGUE, WILL SPEAK WITH MOST MIRACULOUS ORGAN."
YES, AND IT WAS THE PLAYWRIGHT, SOPHOCLES, WHO SAID..
..."A LIE NEVER LIVES TO BE OLD."

Which kind of TYCO action do you prefer?



If long-range action, planning and engineering are for you —so is TYCO HO railroading. You think out dozens of different layouts—build the one you like best. You engineer the details and realism: remote control uncoupling, log, coal and ore unloading; automatic crossing gates . . . bridges, trestles, tunnels—whole towns with TYCO trains whistling through them—and you're running the show. It's a long-range hobby you can enjoy alone—with friends or with Dad. Hours of action to last you for years to come.

If rough-and-tumble competition is for you—TYCO road-racing gives you everything but the smell of scorched rubber and the roar of the crowd. You actually race 500 miles per hour or more in true HO scale. TYCO gives you magnificently detailed cars, more action, more track. More interesting track layouts, too, that you can tear down and rebuild in minutes, with our unique snap-together "TYCO-LOK" track. Endless hours of competitive excitement will be yours with TYCO road-racing.

CAN'T DECIDE WHICH? Slip this under Dad's pillow. He'll probably buy both.

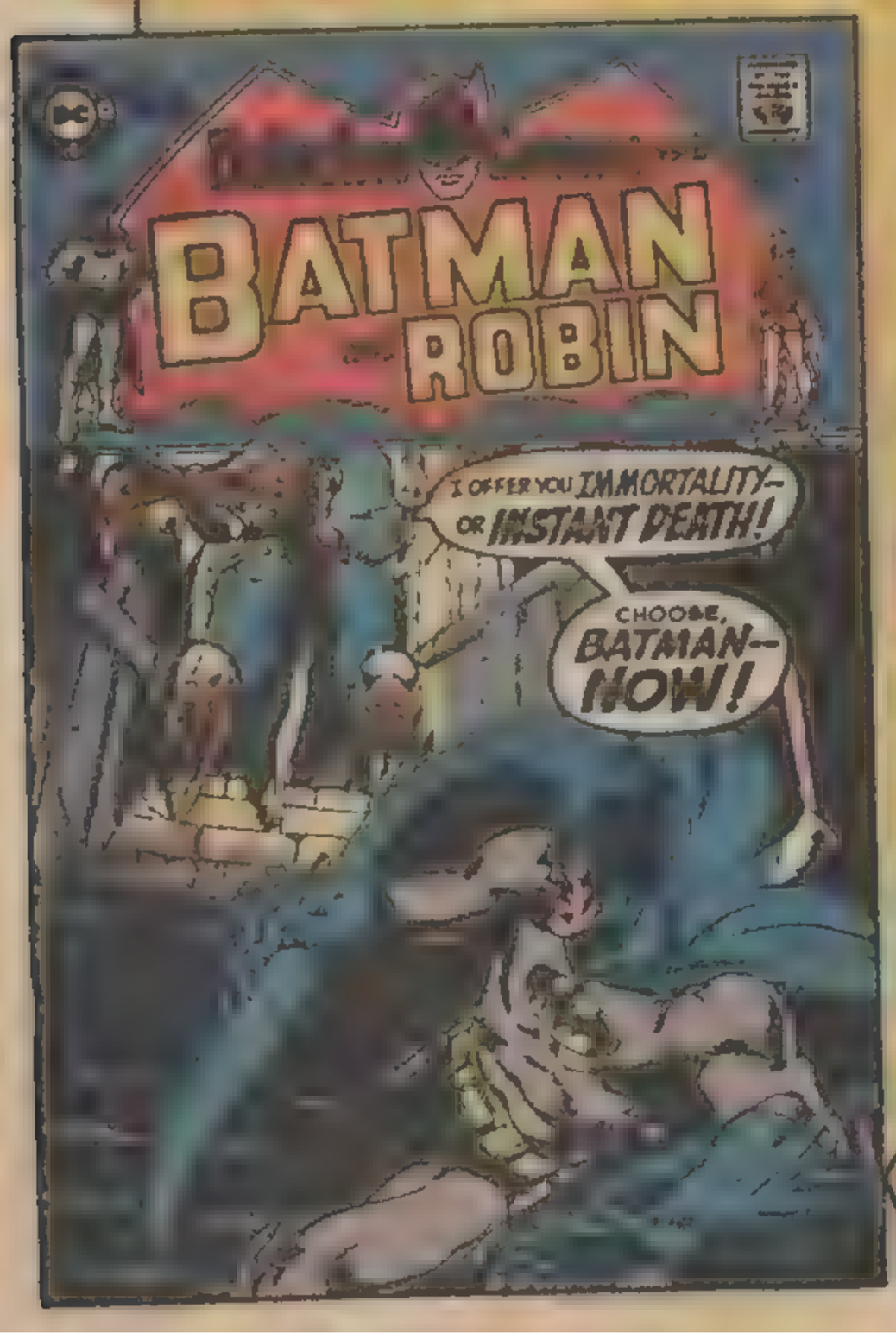
SEE TYCO AT YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY SHOP, TOY OR DEPARTMENT STORE

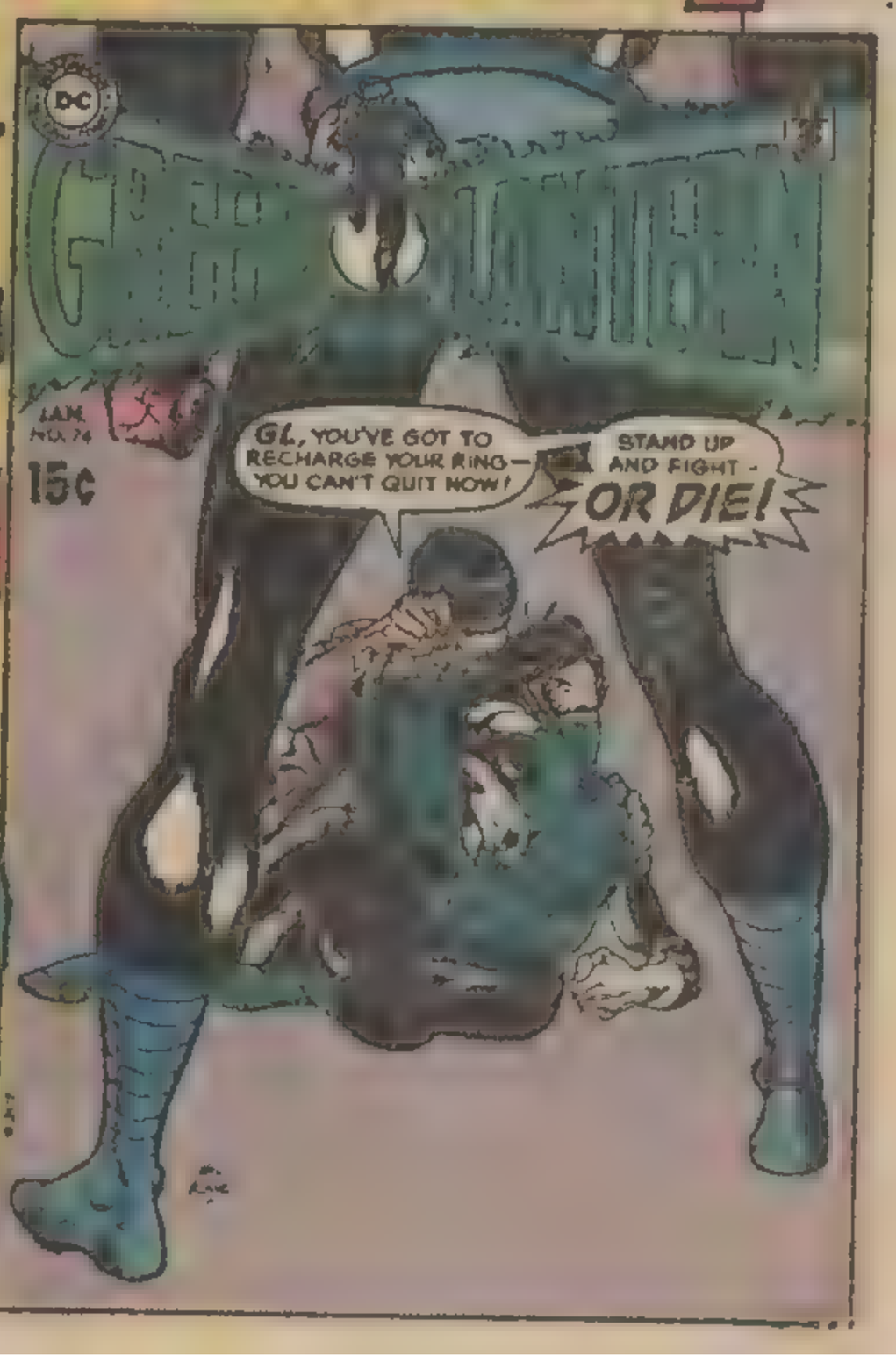
TYCO

If your dealer can't supply you with TYCO color catalog send 25c. TYCO, Dept. TCL, Woodbury Hgts., N.J. 08097

TO DO OR DIE?

A LIFE-OR-DEATH DECISION FOR BATMAN AND GREEN LANTERN





ON SALE NOV. 26th

BATMAN

with ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

FROM *DETECTIVE* NO. 197, JULY, 1953.

THEN HE'S GUILTY--- LIKE THE REST! AND THEY ALL SHALL PAY THE PENALTY!
W
A NEW CRIME, YOUR HONOR! THIS MAN ONCE WROTE A SONG DEDICATED TO THE BATMAN!
The WRECKER
Bob KANE

ONE DAY, WITHOUT WARNING, A NEW TERROR CHILLS THE POPULACE OF GOTHAM CITY! MEN WHO BEFRIENDED BATMAN RUN FOR THEIR LIVES! MEN WHO PUBLICLY IDOLIZED BATMAN, MEN WHO GLORIFIED BATMAN-- THESE ARE THE MARKED MEN OF A STUNNED METROPOLIS! EVERYWHERE A STRANGE VENGEANCE IS EXACTED--- BY THE MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF THE WRECKER! AND EVERYWHERE, BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER ARE FORCED TO THE LIMITS OF THEIR COURAGE AND DARING--- AS THEY COME TO DEADLY GRIPS WITH---

"The LEAGUE AGAINST BATMAN!"

ONE DAY IN THE OFFICES AND FACTORY OF THE GOTHAM MECHANICAL TOY CO., MANUFACTURERS OF BATMAN NOVELTIES...

DON'T ANYONE MOVE! I'M TAKING OVER--- I---THE WRECKER!

THE WRECKER? A NEW CRIMINAL! WHY SUCH A GET-UP JUST TO ROB A SAFE???

Everything FOR THE JUNIOR BATMAN

THAT'S OUR SPECIALTY

FACTORY

THEN, BEFORE THE STARTLED EYES OF THE FRIGHTENED EMPLOYEES...

YOU'VE GOT THE MONEY? OKAY--- NOW FOR THE REAL PURPOSE OF THIS VISIT! SMASH EVERYTHING, MEN--- EVERYTHING! ESPECIALLY THOSE BATMAN TOYS!

WHY--- HE'S MAD! MALICIOUS! HE CAN'T GAIN ANYTHING BY RUINING THOSE TOYS!

AND AS THE WILD FRENZY OF DESTRUCTION CONTINUES, IN THE ADJOINING FACTORY...

NO WONDER HE CALLS HIMSELF THE WRECKER! HE'S MAKING A SHAMBLES OUT OF THE FACTORY!

GOOD GRIEF! ALL THAT EXPENSIVE MACHINERY! WE'RE RUINED!

THEN, SCARCELY AN HOUR LATER, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF GOTHAM CITY...

GEO. V. DEWEY CO. MANUFACTURERS OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST ELECTRIC SIGNS

THE REST OF YOU MEN DESTROY THOSE SIGNS! I'LL PERSONALLY TAKE CARE OF THIS BATMAN AND ROBIN ONE!

Glow

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT! SHEER, SAVAGE DESTRUCTION!

JOIN BATMAN AND ROBIN in the WAR AGAINST DISEASE GIVE TODAY TO THE GOTHAM HEALTH FUND

SHORTLY AFTER, AT TELEVISION STATION WGCT...

WE INTERRUPT OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED TELECAST TO BRING YOU THIS IMPORTANT BULLETIN: A NEW CRIMINAL, WHO CALLS HIMSELF *THE WRECKER*, IS INSANELY WREAKING HAVOC ALL OVER GOTHAM CITY!

WGCT

SUDDENLY...

WHY--- IT'S THE *WRECKER HIMSELF!*

KEEP THOSE CAMERAS TURNING! I HAVE AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOTHAM CITY!

I *HATE BATMAN!!* HE SENT MY THREE BROTHERS *TO THE CHAIR!* I'LL GET *REVENGE!* BUT NOT ONLY ON *BATMAN!* ON THOSE, TOO, WHO *GLORY* IN HIS DEEDS! I HATE EQUALLY ALL THOSE WHO WOULD GLORIFY THE *BATMAN!* AND I WILL *RUIN* THEM!

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE HOME OF MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

THOSE WHO WOULD SPREAD THE *BATMAN* LEGEND ARE MY *ENEMIES!* THOSE WHO WOULD POPULARIZE *BATMAN*, I MARK FOR *DESTRUCTION!*

OH-OH! LOOKS LIKE MY LECTURE TO YOU ON *"THE IMPORTANCE OF OBSERVATION"* WILL HAVE TO WAIT! COME ON, DICK! I EXPECT THE *BAT-SIGNAL* TO FLASH AT ANY MOMENT!

A SWIFT CHANGE OF GARB --- AND BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE READY FOR ACTION! THEN, AS THEY RACE TO THE TELEVISION STATION...

THE *WRECKER'S* GONE, *BATMAN!* HE LEFT SOME FIVE MINUTES AGO!

HMMM! SAW NO SIGNS OF HIM OUTSIDE! PROBABLY TOO LATE TO PICK UP A TRAIL! COME ON, *ROBIN*--- WE'LL REPORT TO COMMISSIONER GORDON!

AND AT POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S HEADQUARTERS...

A TOY COMPANY SMASHED --- BECAUSE IT MANUFACTURED *BATMAN* TOYS! A SIGN SHOP WRECKED--- BECAUSE IT MADE A *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* SIGN! THIS IS BAD, MEN! THE LIST OF POSSIBLE FUTURE VICTIMS IS IMMENSE!

WE'VE GOT OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US, SIR--- AND WITH YOUR PERMISSION, WE'LL GET RIGHT TO IT!

NEXT DAY, IN THE BAT-CAVE...

I'VE CHECKED ALL THE FILES. ONLY TWO MEN FIT THE WRECKER'S DESCRIPTION OF HIMSELF--- THAT OF HAVING THREE BROTHERS WHO WERE ELECTROCUTED! THEIR NAMES ARE SKIP DENTON AND CAL FLINT...

YES, I REMEMBER! THE THREE DENTON BOYS HAD A KID BROTHER WHO DISAPPEARED. AND THE FOURTH FLINT BROTHER WAS IN ALCATRAZ WHEN HIS BROTHERS WERE ELECTROCUTED. HE'S OUT OF PRISON NOW...

THEN, AS THE GROUNDWORK IS CONTINUED, AND THE FAMED LAWMEN COMPILE A LIST OF POSSIBLE WRECKER VICTIMS..

GOSH, I NEVER REALIZED HOW POPULAR WE ARE... AND HOW MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE HAVE GLORIFIED OUR CAREERS IN VARIOUS WAYS!

WE'LL HAVE OUR HANDS FULL, GUARDING THESE PEOPLE. THE POLICE WILL HAVE TO TAKE OVER THE JOB OF FINDING DENTON AND FLINT!

SUDDENLY A WARNING BUZZER ECHOES THROUGH THE BAT-CAVE, AS AN ELECTRONIC "EYE" ATOP THE WAYNE MANSION PICKS UP THE BEAM OF THE BAT-SIGNAL...

LET'S GO, ROBIN! GORDON'S CALLING!

THINGS ARE SURE HAPPENING FAST--- I'LL SAY THAT!

REPORTING TO GORDON, THE DARING DUO IS IMMEDIATELY SENT TO THE HOME OF DWIGHT FORROW, FAMOUS WRITER...

SO FORROW RECEIVED A DEATH-NOTE FROM THE WRECKER!

YES! AFTER THAT RECENT BEST-SELLER HE WROTE ABOUT OUR TEN GREATEST CASES, FORROW WOULD BE A LOGICAL VICTIM!

A MOMENT LATER...

YOU REMEMBER MY BROTHER, DOUG, OF COURSE. WELL, HERE'S THE NOTE SENT ME, BATMAN. DOUG FOUND IT IN THE MAIL-BOX! AND I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU IT HAS UPSET US!

HMM. CRUDELY CONSTRUCTED OF LETTERS CLIPPED OUT OF A NEWSPAPER. IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL KEEP THIS, FORROW...

I DON'T MIND AT ALL! I HOPE IT HELPS YOU! BUT WHAT OF ME? HOW WILL YOU HELP ME? I NEVER DREAMED I'D BE SIGNING MY DEATH-WARRANT WHEN I WROTE THAT BOOK ABOUT YOUR EXPLOITS!

DON'T WORRY, FORROW! I'LL HAVE TWO CRACK DETECTIVES ASSIGNED TO YOU AS BODYGUARDS.. AND THEN THERE'S ALWAYS ROBIN AND MYSELF! YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

I HOPE SO! NOW THAT SPRING IS HERE, I'M JUST ITCHING TO TAKE UP THE GAME OF GOLF--- SEE ALL THE NEW EQUIPMENT I'VE BOUGHT?

LATER...

WELL, FORROW'S BODYGUARDS HAVE TAKEN OVER--- NOW WHAT?

THAT NOTE FORROW RECEIVED MAY WELL HAVE TIPPED OFF THE WRECKER'S NEXT MOVE! WE'LL SOON KNOW!

THE LETTERS ON THE NOTE ARE TYPICAL OF THOSE USED IN THE GOTHAM TIMES' SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT! AND LAST SUNDAY'S SUPPLEMENT WAS DEVOTED TO SCULPTURE IN GOTHAM CITY!

SCULPTURE! IF THE WRECKER WAS INTERESTED IN THAT, HE'D BE MOST INTERESTED IN THE CURRENT EXHIBIT OF ROLF BAGLUND--- THE MAN WHO CAST YOU AND ME IN BRONZE FOR THE WORLD'S FAIR!

FOLLOWING THEIR HUNCH, THE LAWMEN RACE TO BAGLUND'S EXHIBIT...

ROLF BAGLUND STUDIO

COME ON, ROBIN! THE HUNCH PAID OFF!

NEW EXHIBIT

IT'S THE WRECKER! HELP! HELP! LET ME OUT OF HERE!

AND INSIDE THE HUGE GALLERY...

BATMAN AND ROBIN! THANK HEAVENS YOU'VE COME! THESE VANDALS ARE RUINING MY LIFE'S WORK!

STEADY, MR. BAGLUND! WE'LL TAKE OVER NOW!

THEN, AS A FIERCE BATTLE RAGES THROUGH THE HALL OF SCULPTURE...

YOU'LL NEVER GET ME, BATMAN!

LET ME HELP, BATMAN! I'M NOT AFRAID OF THESE VANDALS!

SUDDENLY...

BATMAN! THEY'RE TOPPLING THAT STATUE! BAGLUND WILL BE KILLED! HE'S FROZEN WITH TERROR!

MUST FORGET ABOUT THE WRECKER FOR NOW! HAVE TO SAVE BAGLUND!

ACTING SWIFTLY, BATMAN'S SILKEN CORD SNAKES OUT TO LOOP AROUND A CEILING BEAM. THEN...

MADE IT! BUT BAGLUND'S STUPID MOVE DIVERTED ROBIN LONG ENOUGH FOR THE WRECKER'S MEN TO CAPTURE HIM!

THEN, FACED BY THREATS TO ROBIN'S LIFE, BATMAN IS FORCED TO SURRENDER!

HEY, WRECKER--- HOW ABOUT TAKIN' OFF BATMAN'S MASK, SO'S WE KIN GET A LOOK AT HIM?

WE'VE NO TIME! NOT A SECOND TO LOSE! THE POLICE MAY BE OUTSIDE RIGHT NOW!

THEN, AS THE HEAVY DOOR SWINGS SHUT ON THE DOOMED LAWMEN AND SCULPTOR BAGLUND...

THEY'VE TURNED IT ON! WE'RE DOOMED!

I'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING--- BUT FAST!

SECONDS LATER, BATMAN AND ROBIN FIND THEMSELVES BEFORE THE HUGE OVENS, WHEREIN SCULPTOR BAGLUND BAKES HIS MOLDS...

GRAB THEIR UTILITY BELTS AND SHOVE THEM IN HERE! TOMORROW WE'LL BE ABLE TO OFFER THE CITIZENS OF GOTHAM CITY SENSATIONAL NEWS IN THE OBITUARY COLUMNS!

BAGLUND--- ISN'T THIS AN *AUTOMATIC OVEN*--- DESIGNED TO KEEP SPECIFIC TEMPERATURES?

WHY, YES--- IN MANY RESPECTS IT'S SIMILIAR TO AN ORDINARY KITCHEN OVEN! BUT I DON'T SEE...

THEN IT HAS AN INTERIOR *THERMOSTAT*-- WHICH MUST BE IN THAT BOX UP THERE!

SAY! IF BATMAN CAN ADJUST THE THERMOSTAT TO A SETTING *LOWER* THAN THE SETTING ON THE OUTSIDE DIAL, IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY *SHUT OFF THE OVEN!*

A MOMENT LATER...

THAT DOES IT! THE COILS ARE COOLING! BUT WE'RE STILL TRAPPED! THIS DOOR IS JAMMED--- IT WILL TAKE A GOOD JOLT TO LOOSEN IT!

WAIT, *ROBIN!* I'VE GOT ANOTHER IDEA!

SWIFTLY, BATMAN LOOSENS A LONG SECTION OF HEATING COIL. THEN, AS HE DROPS WITH IT TO THE FLOOR...

THIS COIL HAS ALL THE PROPERTIES OF A SPRING! WE'LL ATTACH THE OTHER END TO THE OTHER WALL AND MAKE OURSELVES A *DRAWSTRING!*

RIGHT! AND ONE OF THOSE BIG CHUNKS OF BRASS CAN BE OUR PROJECTILE!

SOON AFTER...

(GASP!) RIGHT!

(PANT!) STEADY, *ROBIN!* (GASP!) WHEN I SAY THREE, LET HER GO!

AND IN THE NEXT MOMENT...

EUREKA! YOU'VE DONE IT!

COME ON, *ROBIN*--- LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

BOIING!

GIANT BATMAN

LATE THE NEXT AFTERNOON, IN THE LOCKER ROOM OF THE GOTHAM COUNTRY CLUB...

WELL, MR. BURKE AND MR. THOMSON--- FOR A PAIR OF PLAINCLOTHESMEN, YOU'RE NOT BAD GOLFERS AT ALL!

NO--- BUT I BET I LOST TEN POUNDS! THAT SUN WAS MURDER OUT THERE, MR. FORROW!

THEN, AFTER FORROW'S BROTHER HAS JOINED THEM FOR DINNER AT THE CLUB...

YOU MUST BE MORE CAREFUL, SIR. QUITE A FEW PEOPLE AT DINNER COULD HAVE HEARD YOU WHEN YOU ANNOUNCED A DESIRE TO GO FOR A DRIVE THIS EVENING. WE'D RATHER YOUR MOVEMENTS WEREN'T KNOWN TO ANYONE!

GOSH--- I KEEP FORGETTING! OH WELL--- I DON'T SUPPOSE THE *WRECKER* IS A MEMBER OF THIS CLUB!

BUT LATER, ON THE BERRY RIVER ROAD, WHEN FORROW STOPS HIS CAR TO ENJOY THE RUGGED SCENERY...

DON'T MOVE, ANYONE--- OR YOU GET A SLUG IN THE NECK!

HA-HA! AN EXCELLENT LOCATION FOR MURDER! DUMP A BODY INTO THIS RIVER, AND IT WILL BE CARRIED RIGHT OUT TO SEA!

A FEW HOURS LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

THEY SLUGGED US ALL--- BUT MY WOUND WASN'T TOO BAD! I CAME TO IN TIME TO SEE THEM THROW MY POOR BROTHER, BOUND HAND AND FOOT, INTO THE *RIVER!* THIS IS COLD-BLOODED *MURDER*, COMMISSIONER!

I KNOW--- I KNOW. WHAT CAN I SAY, OTHER THAN WE'LL LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED IN OUR HUNT FOR YOUR BROTHER'S MURDERER! BURKE, FILE YOUR REPORT--- I WANT TO STUDY IT. AND NOW I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* ALONE...

ONE MORE THING. MY MEN FINALLY RAN ACROSS SKIP DENTON'S TRAIL. THEY TRACED IT TO THE GOTHAM COUNTRY CLUB WHERE HE WAS EMPLOYED AS A BUS-BOY! HE WAS THERE *TONIGHT*--- AT DINNER! HE'S SINCE DISAPPEARED! FIND THIS MAN, *BATMAN!*

THIS IS BAD, *BATMAN!* A MARK AGAINST THE FORCE! FORROW WAS OUR CHARGE! WE'VE GOT TO AVENGE HIS DEATH PROMPTLY!

ROBIN AND I WILL DO EVERY-THING WE CAN!

BUT AS DAYS PASS, SKIP DENTON'S TRAIL GROWS COLD--- WHILE THE WRECKER GROWS BOLDER THAN EVER...

WRECKER WRECKS BALLOON FACTORY! KIDS' HOLIDAY PARADE DOOMED

MILLION DOLLAR MURAL RUINED BY WRECKER!

BATMAN FAN CLUB HEADQUARTERS BURNED BY WRECKER

THEN, ONE DAY...

A BREAK, ROBIN--- MAYBE! THE PAPER ANNOUNCES THAT A NEW BEN MOSSER MOVIE GOES INTO PRODUCTION TOMORROW ON LOCATION NEAR GOTHAM CITY!

BEN MOSSER! WHY, HE'S THE PRODUCER WHO MADE THOSE BATMAN AND ROBIN MOVIES! I GET IT! HE'LL BE A SURE TARGET FOR THE WRECKER--- AND WE'LL BE THERE, JUST WAITING!

NEXT DAY, AT THE LOCATION HEADQUARTERS OF BEN MOSSER FILMS...

SURE, BATMAN--- I'LL BE GLAD TO COOPERATE! I DON'T WANT THE WRECKER RUINING MY NEW PICTURE --- IT'S A HONEY, ALL ABOUT SPACE TRAVEL AND A STRANGE NEW PLANET!

PROPERTY ROOM

THEN, AS MOSSER TAKES BATMAN AND ROBIN ON A TOUR OF INSPECTION...

THIS IS THE PLANET, "NOVANIA!" TOOK SIX MONTHS TO BUILD THIS SET!

IT SURE LOOKS REAL!

THIS IS A MAN-CARRYING ROCKET--- A REAL ONE, TOO! WE'RE GOING TO SET IT OFF FOR THE MOVIE-- ONLY NO ONE WILL BE IN IT, OF COURSE. BUT THE MOVIE AUDIENCE WILL THINK SOMEONE'S IN IT!

TERRIFIC! I BET IT MAKES A WONDERFUL SCENE!

NEXT DAY...

HERE COME THE EXTRAS, IN THEIR SPACE UNIFORMS. THEY SURE LOOK WEIRD, DON'T THEY?

I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING, ROBIN. I WANT TO SPEAK TO THE CAMERAMAN A MOMENT. BE RIGHT BACK...

SOON AFTER, AS BATMAN REJOINS ROBIN...

BATMAN! THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE HERE! EXTRAS USUALLY STAND ABOUT IN GROUPS, DISCUSSING THE SCENE TO COME. THESE PEOPLE HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO EACH OTHER AT ALL--- AND THEY SEEM TO BE DRIFTING THIS WAY.

HMM... THERE IS SOMETHING OMINOUS ABOUT THEM...

THEN, WITHOUT WARNING!

I WAS RIGHT, BATMAN! IT'S THE WRECKER AND HIS MEN--- THEY MUST HAVE WAY-LAID THE REAL EXTRAS!

TOO MANY OF THEM! WE'VE GOT TO RUN, ROBIN-- TRY TO FIGURE A SURPRISE COUNTER-ATTACK!

GET 'EM! GET BATMAN AND ROBIN!

BUT A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

DON'T WORRY, BOYS--- WE GOT 'EM!

AND FOR GETTIN' 'EM FIRST, WE GET THE HONOR OF DRAGGIN' 'EM OUT TO SHOW THE BOSS!

BOSS, LET US STUFF THESE CHARACTERS INTO THE ROCKET-- AND THEN SET THE THING OFF!

A GREAT IDEA! GO AHEAD, BOYS--- THE FUN IS ALL YOURS!

THE ROCKET IS OPENED, THE LIMP FIGURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE THROWN IN--- AND THEN!

SO LONG, BATMAN! SOON, HE'LL REALLY BE OUT OF THIS WORLD! HAW!

KOOOM!

KOOOSH!

BUT THEN, WITH STUNNING RAPIDITY!

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, BOYS! BUT I FIGURED ROBIN AND I NEEDED THE ADVANTAGE OF SURPRISE OURSELVES. THE GAS PELLETS, ROBIN... QUICKLY!

THOSE WERE DUMMIES IN THE ROCKET! WE DISGUISED OURSELVES IN SOME SPARE SPACE-UNIFORMS!

BATMAN!

ABRUPTLY, FATE DEALS BATMAN A BITTER BLOW! THE LAUNCHER, WEAKENED BY THE ROCKET'S TERRIFIC BLAST, SUDDENLY TOPPLES OVER!

A BREAK! COME ON, MEN--- LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

BATMAN! YOUR HEAD!

SOON AFTER...

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT NOW, BATMAN? THE CAMERAMAN HAS SOMETHING TO TELL YOU...

I DID LIKE YOU SAID, BATMAN... TURNED MY CAMERAS ON THE WRECKER WHEN HE SHOWED UP. YOU CAN SEE THE FILM IN A FEW MINUTES--- IT'S BEING PROCESSED NOW...

YES. LET'S SEE IT, JUST IN CASE. OOOH, MY HEAD!

LATER, IN A PROJECTION ROOM...

THAT'S ABOUT IT, BATMAN--- WHEN THAT PLATFORM FELL ON YOU AND KNOCKED YOU DOWN, I INSTINCTIVELY LEFT THE CAMERA AND RUSHED TO HELP YOU...

WAIT! HOLD IT! I WANT TO STUDY THIS MORE CAREFULLY. I SEE SOMETHING ON ONE OF THE WRECKER'S HANDS!

BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT BLOTCH ON HIS LEFT HAND??? WHAT DOES IT MEAN??

HMMM! IT GIVES ME AN IDEA---BUT I'LL HAVE TO DO SOME FAST INVESTIGATING! NO TIME TO EXPLAIN NOW! ROBIN, YOU REPORT BACK TO GORDON! I'LL JOIN YOU LATER!

AND A FEW HOURS AFTERWARDS, WHEN ROBIN ENTERS COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

AH, ROBIN! IT'S ALL OVER, LAD! YOU CAN CALL BATMAN AND TELL HIM TO COME IN! FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A LONG TIME, MY MEN BEAT YOU TO THE PUNCH! THEY PICKED UP SKIP DENTON--- AND FOUND DWIGHT FORROW'S CIGARETTE LIGHTER ON HIM!

AND AS GORDON AND ROBIN ENTER A NEARBY INTERROGATION ROOM...

WHAT ABOUT THE LIGHTER, DENTON? YOU HAD THE LIGHTER! WHAT ELSE DID YOU GRAB BEFORE YOU DUMPED FORROW'S BODY??

NUTHIN'! NUTHIN'! I DIDN'T DUMP NO BODY! FORROW GIVE ME THE LIGHTER, I TOLD YA!!

I KNOW HIS TYPE! HE'LL BREAK DOWN SOON, AND CONFESS EVERYTHING!

PARDON, COMMISSIONER. BATMAN IS IN YOUR OFFICE. SAYS IT'S IMPORTANT!

A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

DWIGHT FORROW... ALIVE??? BUT--BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HE WAS MURDERED!

NO! JUST A FAKED DEATH, SO HIS BROTHER COULD COLLECT A LARGE AMOUNT OF INSURANCE! THE TWO HAD PLANS TO LIVE IN SOUTH AMERICA!

SO DWIGHT FORROW WAS THE WRECKER! AND HIS FAR-REACHING CAMPAIGN AGAINST BATMAN AND HIS FRIENDS WAS ALL A HOAX TO MAKE HIS OWN "DEATH" BELIEVABLE! A ROLE CREATED AS A SMOKESCREEN. TO BE CONTINUED UNTIL THE INSURANCE WAS PAID!

YES! ONCE I SUSPECTED FORROW, INVESTIGATION REVEALED HE WAS HEAVILY IN DEBT, DUE TO GAMBLING. I FOUND HIM AND HIS BROTHER IN THEIR CELLAR, WHERE THEY HAD AN ELABORATE HIDEOUT! POLICE ARE THERE NOW, ROUNDING UP THE WHOLE GANG!

AND AS BATMAN REVEALS A HASTILY-MADE SKETCH OF THE FORROW CELLAR...

WHEN HIS BODYGUARDS THOUGHT HE WAS SLEEPING OR WORKING, FORROW SLIPPED OUT TO BECOME THE WRECKER! HE HAD SPOTTED DENTON AT HIS CLUB, ATTEMPTED TO MAKE HIM THE FALL GUY!

VERY SMOOTH! REMEMBER--- FORROW'S BROTHER WAS THE ONLY WITNESS TO A "MURDER" THAT NEVER EVEN HAPPENED! THAT DAY, THE WRECKER WAS A HENCHMAN IN DISGUISE!

TUNNEL
SECRET ROOM
SLIDING WALL
FORROW'S CELLAR
TRAP DOOR

AND LATER, IN THE HALL OF TROPHIES, BATMAN CAREFULLY PLACES A GOLF GLOVE AMONG THE HONORED SOUVENIRS ON DISPLAY...

THE BLOTCH ON THE HAND! SUNBURN... DUE TO THE OPEN BACK OF A GOLF GLOVE! THAT'S HOW YOU BECAME SUSPICIOUS OF FORROW!

YES! HE WAS THE ONLY GOLFER IN THE CASE! AND MOST GOLFERS GET THAT PARTIAL BURN THE FIRST TIME OUT EACH YEAR! I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU SOONER, ROBIN... BUT I WANTED TO IMPRESS UPON YOU THIS LESSON IN THE POWERS OF OBSERVATION!

THE GOLF GLOVE THAT LED TO THE DOWNFALL OF DWIGHT FORROW, "THE WRECKER."

THE END

GIANT BATMAIL N-128

Dear Editor:

Marvelous! That's the least I can say about your publishing Batman stories from the '30's and '40's. First you reprinted the very first Batman story in DETECTIVE No. 387, and now you bring us "Here Comes Alfred" in GIANT BATMAN No. 213. Please continue to reprint stories as old as these. Incidentally, why didn't you reprint "The Origin of Robin" as it originally appeared in DETECTIVE No. 38? Why was it redrawn? In Sweden it's quite difficult to get your comics. In Stockholm (with about 1,000,000 inhabitants) there is just one store which carries the American editions.

—Klas H. Reimers, Stockholm, Sweden

(Sorry we couldn't bring you anything from the '40's except the newspaper strip, this issue. The fact is, we only have the negatives of issues from the early '50's —and no original art from the early years. Photographing from the magazine is difficult because the colors come out in black or gray. "Here Comes Alfred" and some other older stories have been reproduced by tracing *them. But this takes some time, and costs too much. There were more complications with the Robin story. In the original version, the Dynamic Duo occasionally acted in a way contrary to their code. We made a few minor changes and put in some new details in the rewritten version.*—Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

The latest GIANT BATMAN was one of the best yet. I have some questions, though, about the origin stories. In "The Origin of Robin," Dick captures his parents' killers as Robin. But in "The Man from Robin's Past," reprinted a few years back in MORE SECRET ORIGINS, Robin's origin was retold, and Batman captured the killers, before Dick became Robin. Which is right? In "Here Comes Alfred," Alfred discovered the Batcave by accident. But in "The Secret of Batman's Butler," reprinted in GIANT BATMAN No. 7, Dick called Alfred to the Batcave to help Batman when he was hurt. And Alfred *applied* for a job as Butler. Which origin is correct?

—Stephen Weisenbach, Teaneck, N.J.

(While researching "The Origin of Robin," we came across no less than four stories telling how Dick Grayson became the Boy Wonder. Only "The Man from Robin's Past" varied in not having Robin catch his parents' killers. And since "Here Comes Alfred" was the original origin of Bruce Wayne's butler, we accept it over the later version.—Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

In No. 208, someone asked where the Giant Penny in Batman's trophy room came from. Well, I was looking through some Batman cards a few days ago and I came across the one I'm enclosing in this letter. It shows the Joker rolling a giant penny, with Robin tied to it, at Batman. It says: "Never one to waste a penny, The Joker thought Batman and Robin's lives an unsound investment! But the flame from a Batmatch proved him wrong and sent him penniless, back to the pen!" I hope this will help.

—Sam Moore, New York, N.Y.

(Thanks, Sam. Lots of other fans offered their suggestions—and one or two even found the original story—which did NOT involve the Joker! It was "The Penny Plunderers," published in WORLD'S FINEST No. 30, Sept.-Oct., 1947. The Giant Penny was part of an exhibit which villain Joe Coyne, who specialized in thefts involving pennies, tried to rob. Batman clobbered some of the gang with the penny.—Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

We are long-time Batman readers, and happened to pick up the latest BATMAN GIANT. We are seriously concerned over the misrepresentation of the Joker's origin as presented in "The Man Behind the Red Hood." If memory serves us correctly, the Joker's weird coloring resulted from an accident which prevented him from removing his circus make-up. How can the latest generation of readers be made to trust and believe in your magazine if you continue to contradict yourselves?

—Phillip Stahlman and Stewart Jennison, Centre College, Danville, Ky.

(We consulted many experts on Batman while preparing the last issue, including Bob Kane, the Caped Crusader's creator. None of them could recall any other origin for the Joker besides that in the "Red Hood" story, which originally appeared in 1951. If you can prove we have *contradicted ourselves, we'll be glad to apologize. But we suspect it's your memories that are at fault.—Ed.)*

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

In your latest Giant, you stated that "The Man Behind the Red Hood" was first published in DETECTIVE 186 (Feb., '51). Feb., '51 is No. 168. And the footnote on page 4 of "The Origin of Robin" says "When Batman Was Robin" was published in DETECTIVE 266 (Dec., '55). Dec., '55 was issue 226.

—Jim Fitzpatrick, Sudbury, Ont., Canada

(You must have plenty of girl friends, Jim. You've sure proved you're a whiz when it comes to DATES! —Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

This is the closest you've ever come to perfect! I am referring, of course, to BATMAN No. 213. Grrreeeat (as a certain tiger once said)! You started your way to the perfect Giant with No. 203, with the excellent Neal Adams cover, all real old stories (pre-1960), and the section of new art. Then came the next stop, in BATMAN No. 208. Although the cover wasn't as good as the previous one (using parts of earlier covers in a couple of places), the complete story, with reprint excerpts, provided a welcome escape from the traditional Giant. The old and new were masterfully interwoven (thanks to you and Gil Kane), but it got a bit nerve-wracking, with all the different styles. You fell a little short of perfect. Then—No. 213. The cover (by Vince Colletta?) was a great start. Next, the Robin story. I knew most of it, but some of the things were new to me. Good Going! Now, for the next Giant, have a format like No. 208, old stories like 213, and more new art. Since I understand you (or Mr. Schwartz) plan a spectacular change in Batman, why not have the whole Giant centered about it, with Batman and Robin reflecting upon the past, using reprints?

—Neal S. Pozner, Seaford, N.Y.

(An interesting idea, but the big change has already come, in the December BATMAN. As for the last GIANT BATMAN cover, it was inked by Colletta, but pencilled by Bill Draut. Incidentally, the picture of Batman and Robin in the center was a copy of the splash of the story that introduced Robin, in DETECTIVE No. 38. —Ed.)

Remember, if you have any comments on this issue, send them to GIANT BATMAIL, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

SHOWCASE presents JASON'S QUEST

WHAT IS Jason's Quest?

Well--let's answer that with some questions of our own. Suppose--just suppose--that at the age of eighteen you suddenly and in tragic circumstances find out you have a TWIN SISTER you've NEVER seen! That the dying man you always thought of as your father, ISN'T! That your REAL father was MURDERED!

That's just **PART** *of what* **JASON'S QUEST** *is about-- it also has* **MYSTERY! SUSPENSE! ADVENTURE!** *And some of the most* **WAY OUT-IN, KOOKIEST** *and* **KINKIEST** *characters ever gathered between the covers of a comic book!*

It's about a boy named **JASON,** *desperately searching for the truth about his* **PAST...**

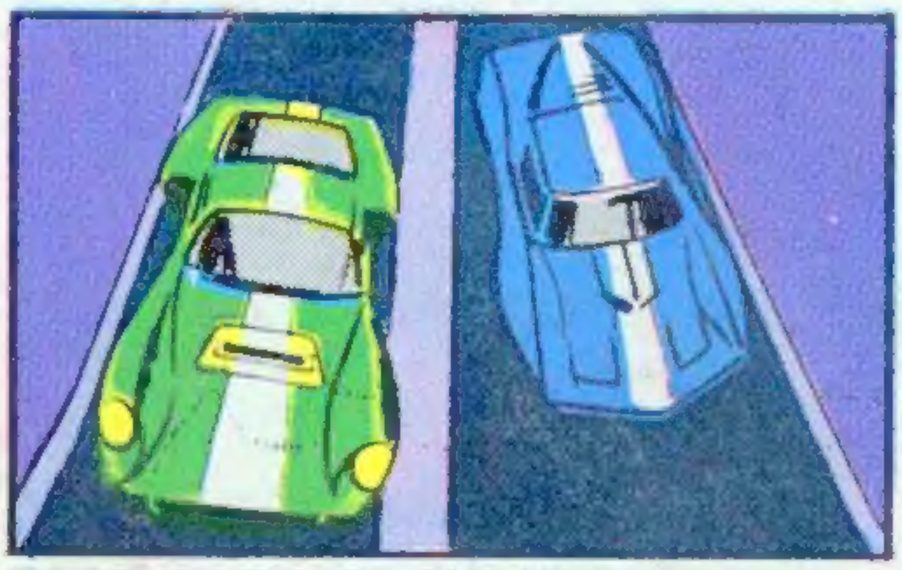
LOVE--
SORROW--
HATE--

It's also about London, Paris, the Riviera, Rome!

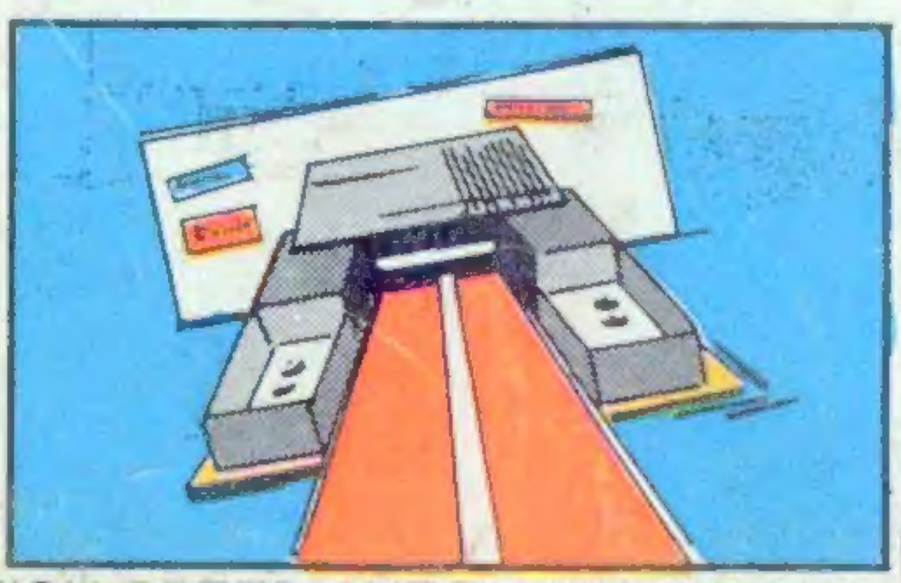
It's about a **BOY,** *his* **BIKE** *his* **GUITAR...**

It's about...
Jason's Quest!
in **SHOWCASE #88**
on sale at your favorite newsstand on **DEC. 11th**

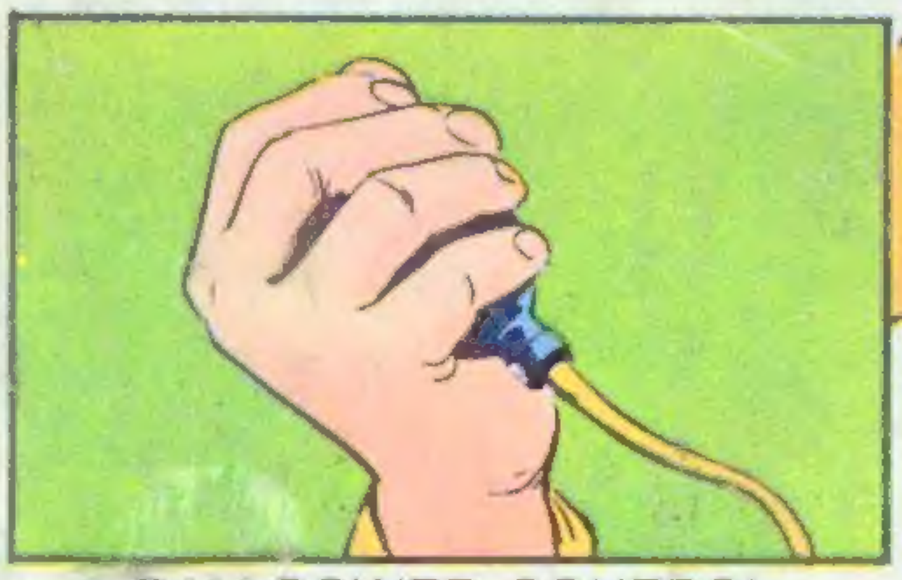
flashback



FAST CARS GLOW IN THE DARK.



HIGH-SPEED AUTOMATIC RETURN.



RAM-POWER CONTROL.

THE HIGH SPEED NON-STOP RACING SET WITH CARS THAT GLOW IN THE DARK!

Flashback Track can be used with HOT WHEELS, SPEEDLINE and other fast cars.

AURORA PLASTICS CORP., WEST HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. 11552

The World's Largest Manufacturer of Hobby Products

Aurora products are manufactured entirely in the U.S. for distribution in America; in Canada for the Commonwealth nations; and in Holland for Europe and Africa.

AURORA

© 1969 AURORA PLASTICS CORP.

SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

GIANT BATMAN

G 67

25¢

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

FEB.

NO .218

THE STRANGEST CASES FROM BATMAN'S CRIME-FILE!

THE HAND FROM NOWHERE! MARCH, 1960

THE BODY IN THE BATCAVE!

THE LEAGUE AGAINST BATMAN! JULY, 1953

The WRECKER

stubby's collection by bluejeff